THE TIMES

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THE TIMES

Tomorrow

Arap Moi . . .
Arap Moi's Kenya after 20 years of *independence*.



. . . le deluge
Friday Page meets a family engulfed by debt.
Swinging . . .
Six months after the *election, the ups and* downs of public opinion.
. . . Eighties
Social trends in Britain: education.
Cell Block
The crisis of overcrowding in America's prisons.

Oil fears push pound to new low

The pound fell sharply yesterday, touching $1.4350 in New York before closing at a record low in London of $1.4420, on oil price fears following reports of the Nigerian senate's vote in favour of leaving Opec. The stock market showed scant concern and continued its record-breaking run with the *FT* Index closing up 5.4 at 753.6 **Pages 16,17**

Olivier 'stable' after operation

Lord Olivier underwent a major kidney operation lasting two hours at St Thomas's Hospital, London. The actor's agent, Mr Lawrence Evans, said: "It was successful an Lord Olivier is in a stable condition."

Gallery design

A new design for the National Gallery extension has been unveiled after a controversial competition in which none of the entries proved acceptable **Page 2**

Holyoake dies

Sir Keith Holyoake the former Governor General and Prime Minister of New Zealand, has died in hospital, at the age of 79.



Art for tender

What is thought to be the first fine art sale by tender, of an eighteenth century portrait, may produce a record price **Page 14**

Nuclear fiction

The nuclear disaster film *The Day After* is fiction and needs no balancing material, IBA sources say in rejecting Mr Michael Heseltine's demand for a right of reply **Page 2**

World Cup

England and Northern Ireland *will share one group* and Scotland and Wales will share *another* in the qualify round of the 1986 World Cup **Page 22**

Thatcher message of calm on EEC and Beirut troops

● The Prime Minister said yesterday Britain would not withdraw its troops from Lebanon but indicated the need for closer United States consultation.
● Mrs Thatcher told the Commons it *would take a year to achieve* the changes Britain is seeking in the EEC.
● The French Government is saying little about the Athens debacle but the French press castigated Mrs Thatcher (Page 6).
● The first of four Greek ferries, chartered to evacuate the 4,000 Arafat supporters in Lebanon, is due to reach Tripoli tomorrow (Page 6).

By Julian Haviland and Anthony Bevins

The Prime Minister returned to *Westminster from the Athens* summit yesterday with a message of calm for MPs anxious about the British contingent in Lebanon and the breakdown of EEC negotiations.

The British troops would not be withdrawn: consultation would be increased with the Americans, with a hint of military restraint; and, on the Community, Mrs Thatcher said a financial settlement could be another year in the making.

Mrs Thatcher falied to mention the British contingent in Beirut during a report on *Athens, but when* presed by Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, she appeared to stiffen her resolve to keep the force *intact*.

In post-summit interviews, she had said there was no truth in rumours of a British pullout *"at the moment" and that the* purpose of the multinational force could "just" be maintained.

But she told MPs yesterday: "There would be considerable repercussions, not only among the various communities in Lebanon and the Arab and Jewish communities beyond, but also within the alliance, if there were to be any suggestion that we should unilaterally pull out or be thought in any way to be leading a retreat. We will not."

The Prime Minister appears keen to persuade Washington that there is a difference between self-defence and the pursuit of diplomatic goals *through military* means.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the *Foreign Secretary, said during* foreign affairs questions before *Mrs Thatcher's statement that* he had earlier informed President Reagan's special envoy in the Middle East, Mr Donald Rumsfeld, of MPs' anxieties about the American strikes against Syrian targets.

Talks will continue with Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, and the French and

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Italian foreign ministers outside *the Nato meeting in Brussels* today.

An *indication of the strength* of British feeling was given *when Mr Denis Healey, the* shadow spokesman, said that the *suggestion of American self*-defence had been "blown out of the water" by repeated US press reports that military action had been *planned long before the* reconnaissance aircraft had been fired on.

Sir Geoffrey said: "It is important, of course, *for all* those concerned to recognize that the objective of the multinational force is to promote the process of reconciliation."

Mrs Thatcher repeated the same concern, although she asked the House to understand that defensive action had to be considered in the light of *American losses*.

In her report to Parliament on the failure in Athens, the Prime Minister suggested that the changes Britain is seeking in the Community would take another year to achieve.

She told Mr Kinnock that she doubted whether the Community would be in real financial difficulty until the autumn (of 1984). "That is the point when we are most likely to get reform," she said.

Mr Kinnock accused her of trying to blame the "unmitigated failure" of the summit on everyone but herself. "You have let our country down again," *he said*.

The Conservative benches, with strong support from the Social Democrats, endorsed Mrs Thatcher's *stance*. Mr Geoffrey Rippon, who nego*tiated British* membership for Mr Edward Heath, said an open *failure was probably better than* a pretended success.

● **ROME:** The Italian Government seems to be in *favour of withdrawing its Beirut* contingent, but wants to avoid a unilateral step which would anger Washington

The inner cabinet yesterday confirmed its view that the role of the multinational force should be re-examined, with the United Nations playing a larger part.

Disaster in the fog: The tail section of the Iberia Airways aircraft after firemen extinguished the flames.

90 die in second Madrid crash in 10 days

From Our Own Correspondent, Madrid

About 90 people were killed yesterday when two Spanish airliners collided in thick fog in Madrid's second crash in less than two weeks. Airline officials said that there were 41 survivors.

A Boeing 727 of the national airline Iberia was taking off when a DC 9 of the domestic company Aviaco crossed its path on the main runway at Barajas airport. The DC 9's fuel tanks exploded and fire broke out.

Señor Carlos Espinosa, *president of both airlines, said* all 37 passengers and five crew *on board the Aviaco plane died*. The Iberia aircraft was carrying 84 passengers, including about 40 Japanese tourists, and *nine crew*.

Susan Roberts, Reuter's *correspondent in Madrid*, reported from the scene that the DC 9 was totally destroyed. "There were just bits and pieces," she said. Further along the runway the burnt-out hulk of the Iberia plane was still smoking. Only the engines and tail of the aircraft were recognisable.

As rescue teams, working in dense fog, pulled charred and mutilated bodies from the wreckage, covering them with blankets, survivors told of the horror of the crash. Officials said the Boeing was moving at about *200 mph when it hit* the DC 9.

***One* survivor, Seor Jesus Villar, said he was reading. "*The plane was already off the* ground. There was a hell of a *crash. The plane came down* and fire broke out almost *immediately.*"**

Signor Mimmo Clatriano, an *Italian survivor, said he* rushed to the back of the Boeing after the collision because the front was engulfed in flames and smoke.

"Two stewardesses had fainted beside the emergency door at the back of the plane and all the passengers were rushing towards it", he said. "As I am tall, I was able to push my way through, break the glass in the door and get out. Then the other passengers were able to do the same".

The fog at Barajas was so thick yesterday morning that *shortly before the collision* incoming flights had been *diverted to* other Spanish airfields. A control tower *official said that visibility had* been down to five yards. "You *couldn't see anything on the* runway", he said.

Eyewitnesses *said that* the Boeing was at the stage of takeoff down runway 01 with visibility down to 25ft. It was unable to divert to avoid the DC9, but Signor Clatriano said he had felt a "sharp movement" of the plane to the left just before the crash.

Señor Espinosa claimed the airport was open to traffic at the time and an official weather report put visibility at 300yds. The Iberia aircraft had been cleared for take-off by ground control while the Aviaco plane had been told to start its take-off approach.

Firemen who rushed to the

Continued on back page, col 2

Rushford sees Scoon as 'Caesar' of Grenada

From Trevor Fishlock New York

Mr Anthony Rushford, the British legal specialist who *resigned as Attorney-General of* Grenada, said yesterday that he *quit because he did not want to* be associated with an ineffective *and leaderless Government.*

"I saw the situation collapsing to anarchy ... My reputation and integrity were at *stake" he told me by telephone* from St Vincent, on his way to Antigua.

Evidently angry over what he called an "exhausting experience" during his five weeks in *Grenada, he* said he had been treated by Sir Paul Scoon, the Governor-General, with "contempt and condescension".

"Sir Paul is a pompous man" he declared. He refers to himself, in the third person, as Governor-General – even at the dinner table".

But there were also "personal slights" *Mr Rushford admitted*. "I was inadequately paid, *housed and recognised. I had no* entertainment allowance. The glasses of beer I bought for journalists and diplomats I paid *for myself*".

He described Grenada's Government as a headless body. "The delightful people of the island look for leadership but they cannot tell who is leader or master". Quoting from Milton's poem, *Lycidas*, he

Continued on back page, col 4

IRA kills leading Ulster politician

From Richard Ford, Belfast

A leading Official Unionist member of the Northern Ireland Assembly was murdered by the Provisional IRA yesterday, bringing renewed fears of a violent upsurge in revenge killings throughout the province.

In retaliation for the killing of two of its members by the Special Air Services, the Provisional IRA shot the Official Unionist Party's law and order spokesman, Mr Edgar Graham, outside *Queen's University in* south Belfast.

He was the most senior politician to die in Ulster since *the Provisionals killed the Rev* Robert Bradford MP who like *Mr Graham*, aged 29 and a lecturer at the university, *represented the South Belfast* constituency for the Official Unionists.

Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, cancelled his engagements yesterday to hold emergency talks with the police and the Army and there were demands from Unionists for tighter security and the reintroduction of selective internment.

The Rev Martin Smith, *Official Unionist* MP for South Belfast, said that he had requested more police protection for Mr Graham because he believed that he was an easy target for a murder attempt.

Mr Graham himself had alleged in the Northern Ireland *Assembly* that *"loyalist"* and Republican paramilitaries were conspiring to kill a leading Official Unionist.

Last night the Royal Ulster Constabulary said that it had discussed security with Mr Graham on several occasions and that had led to protective measures at his home, which he shared with his sister Ann, including a direct means of communication with the police.

Less than two weeks ago the police discussed further security measures at Mr Graham's home and advised him on his movements at work but at no time, the police said, had he asked for personal protection at home or work. He had been issued with a personal protection weapon which he was carrying at the time of his death.

The terrorists struck soon after Mr Graham, a single man, had walked from his car and was talking with a colleague on the pavement near the university's law library.

Two men in casual dress *came out of the university* buildings. One of them pulled a *high velocity pistol from a* folder of papers and shot Mr Graham in the back of the head at point blank range.

As he fell to the ground, blood pouring from the wound, the gunmen fired three more shots before running off and passing the pistol to his colleague. Medical staff from the university attempted to give first aid but Mr Graham dies soon afterwards.

As a lecturer on his way to a regular tutorial, Mr Graham's movements would have been known within the university.

Security forces have long

Continued on back page, col 1

Mr Edgar Graham: Shot outside university.

US will go 'anywhere' to get fair arms deal

From Rodney Cowton Defence Correspondent Brussels

Mr Caspar Weinberger, the US Defence Secretary, told Nato yesterday that the US would go "anywhere in the world" to negotiate a sound arms control agreement with the Soviet Union.

Ending a two-day conference with Nato defence ministers, he told reporters: "We stand ready to negotiate fully at any table anywhere in the world," to get a fair agreement to reduce Soviet and US missiles in Europe.

Mr Weinberger is in Europe assuring Nato that US-Soviet dialogue will continue despite deployment of new American missiles and the recent Soviet walk-out from negotiations to reduce intermediate-range nuclear missiles (INF).

He and the defence ministers discussed the wisdom of merging the *intermediate- range talks* with talks on strategic missiles, *the present round of which ends* in Geneva today.

Mr Weinberger was cool to the idea. He said the chief *difficulty* was to get the Russians to "negotiate seriously".

Nato ministers have also shown little enthusisam for merging the talks: the general view is that any initiative for INF resumption will have to come from Russia.

Mr Michael Heseltine, the British Defence Secretary, said the West had made it clear it was not going to abandon the conference table. "If the Soviets genuinely wanted a rapprochment they would find it extraordinarily easy".

Most of the ministers reaffirmed Nato's decision to proceed *with deployment* of Pershing 2 and cruise missiles.

London bombs charge

By Richard Evans

A man will appear at Marylebone court this morning in connexion with three IRA bombings in London two years ago.

Thomas Quigley, aged 28, of Glenalina Road, Belfast, was charged late yesterday afternoon at Paddington Green police *station in west London where* he has been held under armed *guard since his arrest in Upper* Falls Road, Belfast, last Friday.

The charge states that on various dates between August, 1981 and November 13, 1981 he unlawfully and maliciously conspired with other persons to cause by an explosive substance explosions of a nature likely to endanger life or cause injury to property.

Radiation in silt near Sellafield

By Ronald Faux

Significant radiation has been discovered in silt at Maryport harbour, a few miles north of the nuclear fuel reprocessing plant at Sellafield (formerly Windscale) in Cumbria.

Five grammes of the silt inhaled as dust could contain the maximum advised annual *dose of inhaled radiation*, according to a scientist doing *studies for the local authority*.

Allerdale District Council was planning to dredge the silt, but it has been told by Dr Richard Scott of the Department of Molecular Biology at Edinburgh University that the silt would have to be loaded and transported when it was wet to minimise dust, the tyres of the transporting lorries would have to be washed down before they reached public roads, all loads would have to be covered, dust levels would need monitoring, and the workmen concerned treated as radiation workers and *monitored accordingly*.

Elsewhere, along an 11-mile *stretch of shore between St Bee* Head and the River Esk, *monitoring by the Department* of the Environment has uncovered fresh items of seaweed and other vegetation, plastic *and string containing higher* than normal radioactivity.

● British Nuclear Fuels said last night that the method used *for emptying tanks where* radioactive material was held before discharge down the sea pipeline at Sellafield had now been modified (The Press Association reports).

● Worries about contaminated fish in the Irish Sea have been tempered by new government figures showing that although there was a slight rise in radiation in fish caught near Sellafield, in 1981, levels fell by half between 1978 and 1982 (our Fleetwood Correspondent writes).

37% rise in drink-drive prosecutions

By John Witherow

***There has been a big* increase in the number of *prosecutions for drink-driving* offences since the introduction of *electronic breath-testing* machines last May, according to provisional Home Office figures.**

About 75,000 drivers were convicted on drink-drive charges last year. But in the seven momnths since the "intoximeters" came into use there have been 60,000 positive tests, most of which have led to convictions. If the trend continues it will mean that the number of convictions for drink-driving will increase by about 37 per cent over last year.

An official of the manufacturers of Lion intoximeters, which have been issued to 39 police forces in England and Wales, said that the rate of positive results was highest because it enabled police officers to deal with drink-drive suspects much more rapidly than under the old system.

"Before, a policeman might *have to go back to the police* station for a couple of hours *while he waited for a doctor and* a blood test," he said. "Now he *can be back on patrol within 10* minutes."

***Home Office figures also* show that last year only 35 per *cent of tests for drink-driving* proved positive, compared with nearly 60 per cent *in the early* 1970s.**

The "intoximeter" may be leading to more prosecutions, but the printout from the £3,000 machine has led to legal controversy.

Thousands of motorists facing drink-driving charges will be *awaiting the result of a* hearing before the Divisional Court today with more than a little trepidation.

Their cases have been adjourned pending the appeal *by Hampshire police against* a ruling at Basingstoke Magistrates' *Court last September*. The court decided that the *printout, which shows* times and levels of alcohol in the *blood in an abbreviated form*, could not be admitted as a statement and dismissed the case.

The challenge, the first of its kind since the "intoximeter" was introduced, has led to many more defendants pleading not guilty to drink-driving charges. Most of the 600 magistrates courts have adjourned such cases; some, such as Southampton and Basingstoke, have suspended all drink-driving cases until the matter is cleared up.

The solicitor who challenged the printout in Basingstoke, Mr David Hawke, received 650 *telephone calls* in the week after the ruling. Most came from solicitors asking for the precise form of the defence and the firm has printed a letter explaining its case.

About 120 people, including a barrister, approached Mr Hawke asking him to defend them on drink-driving charges.

Even in Scotland and the *north-east, where the Camic* "intoximeter" is in use, defend*ants have pleaded* not guilty hoping that a favourable appeal *ruling will also* affect the printouts from the Camic.

Tory MEPs protest at Thatcher restraint on pre-election spending

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

The Prime Minister has upset Conservative members of the European Parliament, at a sensitive time, by trying to restrict spending of Community funds on promoting next year's elections to the parliament.

The Conservatives are entitled to spend about £2.8m of Community money, on the authority of the parliament, to spread information about its workings in advance of the elections, to be held on June 14.

They are not allowed to spend the funds on campaigning, and the parliament's rules stipulate that the expenditure must cease 40 days before polling, by May 5.

But Mrs Margaret Thatcher is insisting that the spending from Community funds must stop much earlier. On her behalf the party chairman, Mr John Gummer, has proposed to the 60 British Conservative MEPs that the cut-off date should be March 14.

The group thinks that would be foolish, and its feelings are aggravated by the more serious complaint that they are out of touch with Mrs Thatcher and unable to influence her attitudes.

She has not met the MEPs as a group since March and has no plans to meet them again, although in its view and that of some of the Prime Minister's advisers it is in her interests' that they should fully share her thinking, and she theirs.

Their role at Strasbourg in the next few weeks, when the parliament is bound to reconsider whether to freeze Britain's promised rebate, may be crucial.

Yet some MEPs complained yesterday that the Prime Minister was "trying to run them, through Mr Gummer, by remote control". This was not good enough.

The Prime Minister's motives in restricting pre-election expenditure appear mixed. Her habitual reluctance to spend public money seems to be the main one. But she also fears that the electorate may think it unfair that the Conservatives have far more to spend than other British parties.

The allocation favours those parties which did best in the 1979 election. Labour, with 17 MEPs, expects to have more than £600,000 to spend. The Liberals, with no British MEPs, are likely to have about £250,000 given them by the European Liberal Democratic Group. The Social Democrats will have nothing for pre-campaign expenditure.

Conservative treasurers, who have to raise funds for the campaign proper, have suggested that industrialists may be reluctant to answer appeals if the party seems flush with Euromoney. But the MEPs believe that industry, being hard-headed, will expect the party to use all available community cash before asking for more.

They have also told the Prime Minister that the most wasteful use of public funds would be to spend upwards of £2m in an effort to increase public awareness of the parliament and the elections, and allow interest to lapse during a seven-week hiatus.

Mr Nigel Broackes, Lord Annan and Mr Peter Ahrends at the unveiling of the latest National Gallery extension design (Photograph: Harry Kerr).

Another new look for National Gallery

By John Young

A new and possibly final plan for the long delayed National Gallery extension was made public yesterday.

It consists of 17 galleries, linked to the main gallery floor of the present building, with three floors of offices underneath, one of them below ground level.

The design is by the architects Ahrends, Burton and Koralek, who were nominated by the Government last year to produce a new scheme after a controversial and indecisive competition. The gallery trustees made it clear at the time that they favoured a rival design by Skidmore, Owings and Merrill, but they were overruled by a majority decision of the judging panel.

The latest plan, which bears obvious signs of a compromise, incorporates a so-called tower of less than 100 ft, surmounted by aluminium masts intended to complement the spire of St Martin in the Fields nearby.

It also includes a circular internal courtyard and sunken garden, which are said to have found favour with the assessors and the public at the time the competition designs were on view. The external walls would be clad in Bath and Portland stone and in glass.

The prospective developers are Trafalgar House, whose chairman, Mr Nigel Broackes, said that his firm would probably occupy the lower floors.

Trafalgar House will apply to Westminster City Council for planning permission next week. The application will then be called in by Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, and a public inquiry is scheduled for next April.

Lord Annan, chairman of the trustees and formerly a strong supporter of the Skidmore design, said yesterday that he hoped the extension could be completed by the end of 1987.

The trustees had expressed reservations about the stepped profile of the top of the tower and the mast structure above it, he said. But they were entirely satisfied with the space provided for the gallery and the layout of the rooms, which would house its collection of Early Renaissance paintings, probably the finest and most representative in the world.

No one satisfied, page 12

BSC losses cut to £2.6m a week

By John Lawless

British Steel's losses of well over £1m a day at the beginning of this year have been cut by almost-three-quarters. They are now said to be running at £2.6m a week.

That compares with £9m a week for January, and a figure of £3.5m a week quoted only last month by the BSC's new chairman, Mr Robert Haslam, when writing in *Steel News*. Mr Haslam based his figure on an annual rate of loss of £180m since April.

But, BSC said when declaring its latest results yesterday, the obvious improvement in performance had to be balanced against "the fragility of prices throughout Europe", which will increase its trading losses in the second half of the year.

For the six months to the end of September, losses were £73m on home orders of £1,057m and exports of £377m. That was more than half the £156m deficit for the same period of 1982, when turnover was slightly higher.

Mr Robert Haslam, BSC chairman, said: "The major worry is the vast surpluses of steel-making capacity in Europe and the way they have been driving prices down in recent weeks. We are now selling at 1979 prices with 1983 costs and this cannot go on."

Although the BSC says that "strenuous efforts to achieve further cost reductions and performance improvements continue", that is not thought to be ahint that it is looking for another drastic round of job cuts. Its workforce of 166,000 in 1980, is down to 73,000.

The British Government is campaigning to get the Germans, Italians and Belgians in particular to follow its rationalization path.

The BSC half-yearly statement declares: "The need for an effective European steel regime, to maintain discipline in the market, and the exchange rates for sterling continue to be critical to the achievements of targets for the year."

Confusion on Varley successor

By Philip Webster
Political Reporter

Mr Eric Varley, the former Labour Cabinet minister who is to leave the Commons to go into business, is also to give up his post of treasurer of the Labour Party in January.

There was confusion over his likely successor last night after Mr Sam McCluskie, treasurer and assistant general secretary of the National Union of Seamen, said that he would accept nomination for the post.

Labour Party headquarters made clear, howevwer, that under the party constitution Mr Albert Booth, the former MP, whom Mr Varley beat in the election for treasurer should take over automatically.

The constitution states that any vacancy in any division of the national executive should be filled by the cooption of the unsuccessful candidate in that division who had most votes. That would clearly be Mr Booth and party officials have been given to understand that he would be interested in the post.

40 held as Nalgo homes talks collapse

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

At least 40 demonstrators were arrested in London yesterday as talks to prevent mass closure of homes for children, the elderly and the handicapped at Christmas collapsed.

As part of a "day of action" thousands of people lobbied negotiations between leaders of 25,000 residential social workers and local authorities.

Police clashed with the demonstrators, members of the National and Local Government Officers' Association (Nalgo), stopping them from marching into Belgrave Square, where talks were being held, and the arrests were made.

The breakdown in the talks means the homes face a Christmas of severe disruption. Last night Nalgo said it would press ahead with a ballot of members seeking to extend action which already includes stoppages and closures.

The workers are voting on whether to restrict working to a nine-to-five five-day week throughout Britain. Nalgo is confident there will be a mandate for fresh disruption.

Employers made what they regarded as a concession yesterday by offering to include Nalgo's opinions in a review of conditions among residential social workers. But Nalgo argues that the review is unacceptable because its terms mean any extra money for its members would come form other local authority workers.

Nalgo wants a cut from 39 hours a week to 35, premium payments for shift work and irregular hours, and better pay for working weekends and public holidays. That would constitute parity with other local authority white-collar workers, Nalgo says.

The employers argue that the claim would increase the wage bill for workers in the homes by 50 per cent and they cannot afford it.

A Nalgo spokesman said last night he was sure that members would vote for the action and that the employers could not negotiate because they were acting under government instruction.

Nalgo estimated that about 15,000 demonstrated yesterday "which showed the strength of feeling among the membership". The police put estimated numbers at 6,500.

French milk meets a sales veto

The consignment of long life milk from France that has been the subject of dairy industry protests has been allowed to enter Britain; but the importer has been told that it must not be offered for sale yet.

Tests conducted on the milk since it arrived at Newhaven, East Sussex, last Thursday are understood to have shown that it contains too much water. The importers have promised not to sell the milk until further analysis can be carried out.

Newhaven port health authority said that the importers of the 20,000 litres of semi-skimmed milk had been told that selling it would contravene the Food and Drugs Act.

Rail union halts private catering

The National Union of Railwaymen has blocked the launch of the first private-catering service for British Rail on the Glasgow and Dumfries to Stranraer lines.

A private trolley service of sandwiches and soft drinks was to have been operated by Mr Ian Muirhead.

£14,000 for steer

The supreme champion of the Smithfield Show, a crossbred Charolais-Aberdeen Angus steer weighing 1,250lb, was auctioned yesterday for £14,000, equal to last year's record price. The animal was owned by Mr John Lascalles, of Carnoustie, Angus.

Shell peace move

Craftsmen at Shell's refinery in Hanlow, Cheshire, voted yesterday to end their eight-week wage dispute and return to work tomorrow unless their transport union colleagues, meeting today, reject the 6.2 per cent offer.

TV home fire

Fire yesterday destroyed the council house in Reading, Berkshire, of the Wilkins family, who appeared in the BBC's 1970s documentary, *The Family*, now being repeated on BBC 2. Mr Christopher Wilkins, aged 19, was seriously injured jumping from a window.

Nuclear film needs no reply, IBA says

By David Hewson

The Independent Broadcasting Authority will not provide any other right of reply to balance the nuclear disaster film *The Day After* if Mr Michael Heseltine does not take part in the discussion which will follow screening of the programme on Saturday.

The authority regards the film as fiction which does not require other material to provide balance.

Mr Heseltine, the Secretary of State for Defence, has objected to the United States programme because he says it misrepresents nuclear deterrence, and he has written to the IBA asking for the opportunity to redress the bias.

Yorkshire Television has invited him to appear in the discussion programme, but it is understood that he is pressing to appear in a separate interview immediately after the film is screened.

● Few of Britain's houses will remain standing after a major nuclear attack, according to a report which casts strong doubt on the Government's civil defence policy (Pat Healy writes).

The report, from the Building and Social Housing Foundation, based in Coalville, Leicestershire, says that most houses will be destroyed or rendered uninhabitable by blast and fire.

It says existing houses can provide only limited protection and adds that there is no appreciable way that this can be improved.

People who build "refuge rooms" inside their homes will get some protection from radioactive fallout, but not to the extent claimed by the Government, the report says.

"The only 'safe' option for a householder whose home is likely to suffer severe blast damage is to be as far away from it as possible in an area where the blast wave has declined in its destructive power."

The foundation, which is a registered charity concentrating on research and education on the science, development, construction and management of housing, commissioned the research in the light of the call by US Roman Catholic bishops earlier this year for attention to existing civil defence programmes.

● Group Captain Leonard Cheshire VC, who was the official British observer of the atomic bombing of Nagasaki in 1945, opposes unilateral nuclear disarmament in a Roman Catholic pamphlet published today (Our Religious Correspondent writes).

Deterrence could prevent nuclear attack or nuclear blackmail, he states, whereas disarmament by one side would leave it with no effective defence.

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BBC staff attack Dimbleby

By Our Labour Reporter

Journalists at BBC Television yesterday condemned Mr David Dimbleby, the broadcaster and owner of the *Richmond and Twickenham Times*, for taking their union to court.

The television news branch of the National Union of Journalists (NUJ) backed the union's national executive in defying an injunction granted to Mr Dimbleby to stop an NUJ strike at his newspaper group.

The union is expected to appeal to the House of Lords

Journalists at Mr Dimbleby's papers are on strike because he transferred printing of the titles to the non-union TBF Printers, which is associated with T. Bailey Forman with whom the NUJ has a long-standing dispute.

Nott attacks Pym for 'pessimistic' speech

By our Political Reporter

Sir John Nott, the former Cabinet minister, yesterday accused Mr Francis Pym of a misleading reading of the national condition in his controversial Oxford speech calling for wiser political leadership.

Sir John, now a director of Lazard Brothers, the merchant bank, retired from Parliament in June. He made an unusually strong personal criticism of Mr Pym in a speech to the City Liaison Group.

He said that Mr Pym had encapsulated in his speech "that most damaging post-war contribution of the British establishment pessimism." If the flame of public confidence had just begun to flicker, Sir John said, "Francis seems to do his best to douse it."

He said the happiest moment of his political career had been when Mrs Margaret Thatcher became the party leader, and he had sensed that the "consensus-seeking, paternalistic, occasionally conscious-ridden and somewhat with post-war tradition had been broken." The Macmillan premiership had been a disaster.

Sir John said he had been roused to react to Mr Pym's speech because of the near dismissal of what the new Tory Party had achieved, including the cut in inflation, and reduced borrowing requirement. Sir John asked: "Is this financial transformation to be ignored because we suffer the waste of three million unemployed?"

In a speech at the Carlton Club, London, yesterday, Lord Whitelaw, who has just been given responsibility by Mrs Thatcher for the improving the presentation of Government policy, emphasized its determination to stick to its economic course.

Coach driver in M5 death crash fined £385

The driver of a coach that crashed on the M5 at Cullompton, Devon, in June, killing a teacher and seriously injuring 20 children, told a special sitting of magistrates in the town yesterday that the crash had been "a ghastly experience".

Allan Johnson, aged 34, from Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria, said that he had tried to avoid the collision in which Mrs Delicia Moss, aged 28, died.

He was found guilty of careless driving. He also admitted exceeding the 70 mph speed limit and failing to switch on the coach's tachograph. He was fined a total of £385.

In all, 40 children and three other adults on the trip from the Lakes School, near Windermere, were hurt when the coach collided with a parked lorry.

The lorry driver, Kevin Pavy, from Taunton was fined at an earlier hearing after admitting parking on the motorway hard shoulder.

Speaker's new suit

The Speaker of the House of Commons, Mr Bernard Weatherill, wearing the new court dress suit presented to him yesterday by the Federation of Merchant Tailors. Mr Weatherill is a former tailor.

NGA and Shah resume peace talks

From Paul Routledge, Labour Editor, Manchester

Peace talks aimed at ending the closed shop dispute between the National Graphical Association and Messenger Group Newspapers restarted in Manchester last night.

Mr Selim ("Eddie") Shah is due back in the High Court tomorrow to pursue further complaints against the NGA which could result in heavy new fines against the print union for last week's violent picketing in Warrington, Cheshire.

The negotiations, at the Manchester office of the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (Acas), were being conducted by Mr Pat Lowry, the service's chairman, whose team of conciliators shuttled between the free sheet newspaper publishers and union officials demanding the reinstatement of six men and the establishment of a closed shop.

As they went into the talks the two parties were guarded in their comments about a successful outcome. Mr Tony Dubbins, general secretary-elect of the NGA, said: "The company made a statement last night saying they were encouraged by the progress, and we are very reassured by their statement."

Mr Shah said that he was hoping to meet the union face to face for the first time in the present round of peace talks, but he confirmed that his court action against the union was going ahead.

Sale room

Top price rarities

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

Rarities selling for auction price records have been the order of the day in the United States and Britain in the past 24 hours.

In London, Sotheby's sold the most important painting by Gustav Klimt, presiding genius of the Vienna Secession, to be seen on the market for many years for £682,000 (estimate £600,000-£800,000). It depicts a medieval knight in gold armour on a black horse and is titled "Das Leben ein Kampf".

Phillips secured an auction record for a platform ticket at £374 (estimate £60-£120). The ticket allows the bearr access to platforms of Ludgate Hill Station on the South-Eastern and Chatham line.

Phillips also secured £1,870 (estimate £100-£200) for a Marklin clockwork handpainted electric tram car, dating from before the First World War.

Sotheby's in New York set an auction record for Chinese jade, selling a brownish-yellow belthook and pendant mask of the Warring States Period for $396,000 (£270,307).

At Barnes, Torquay, Koopman headed a consortium of three London dealers who paid £49,500 for a Victorian parcel-gilt table service designed by A. A. Willms in the Pompeian manner and shown at the International Exhibition of 1862.

It comprises five candelabras, two winecoolers and 12 stands supporting dishes of various sizes. It was a gift from the Midland Railway Company to S. Beale, Esq, MP, its chairman, in 1864.

Masterpiece of reader, page 14

Korchnoi's stamina and resistance weaken

By Harry Golombek
Chess Correspondent



The Hungarian grandmaster Zoltan Ribli resigned the seventh game against Vassily Smyslov in the Acorn Computers World Championship semi-finals in London on Tuesday without resuming play.

This had been adjourned after Smyslov's forty-second move and Ribli sealed the move 42 . . . Q-R8 ch. It was obvious, however, that Smyslov's king would soon escape the checks, after which Ribli's position was hopeless. His resignation made the score Smyslov 4½, Ribli 2½. This meant that the former world champion needed only two more points to win the match.

In the other semi-final, Victor Korchnoi's stamina and resistance appear to be weakening. His loss of the sixth game was significant and his play in the seventh game on Tuesday confirmed this weakness.

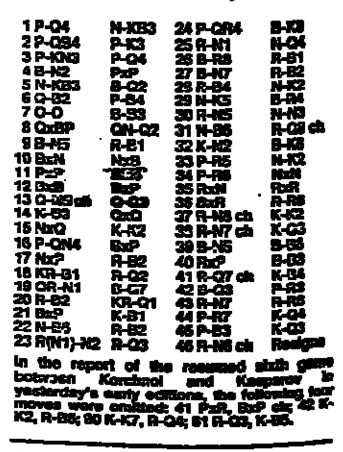
Kasparov opened with the Catalan System, as he had done on a number of occasions and Korchnoi adopted a simple, almost naive, way of meeting it, with the result that by move 15 Kasparov enjoyed a small but clear advantage with his King's bishop exerting much pressure along the long diagonal.

On move 16 Kasparov made a fine pawn sacrifice that opened up fresh lines for his pieces. He soon regained the pawn and for good measure by move 21 he was a pawn up with his bishop now sweeping the whole diagonal.

Up to this point Korchnoi had been making moves more quickly than his opponent, but from now on he played at almost lightning speed in an attempt to hustle Kasparov.

This proved quite the wrong policy as the younger player was continually *finding* better moves than his adversary, and when Korchnoi resigned on the forty-sixth move Kasparov had taken only one hour and twenty minutes, as against his opponent's two hours and twelve minutes.

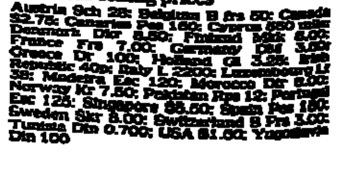
So the score was Kasparov 4, Korchnoi 3.



Seventh game
White Kasparov, Black Korchnoi
Q.G.D. Catalan System

1 P-Q4	N-KB3	24 P-QR4	B-K3
2 P-QB4	P-K3	25 R-N1	N-Q4
3 P-KN3	P-Q4	26 B-R6	R-B1
4 B-N2	PxP	27 B-N7	R-B2
5 N-KB3	B-Q2	28 R-B4	N-K2
6 Q-B2	P-B4	29 N-K5	B-R4
7 O-O	B-B3	30 R-N5	N-N3
8 QxBP	QN-Q2	31 N-B6	R-Q8 ch
9 B-N5	R-B1	32 K-N2	B-K8
10 BxN	NxB	33 P-R5	N-K2
11 PxP	[illegible]	34 P-R6	NxN
12 QxB	BxP	35 RxN	RxR
13 Q-N5 ch	Q-Q2	36 BxR	R-R8
14 N-B3	QxQ	37 R-N8 ch	K-K2
15 NxQ	K-K2	38 R-N7 ch	K-Q3
16 P-QN4	BxP	39 B-N5	B-B6
17 NxP	R-B2	40 RxP	B-Q5
18 KR-B1	R-Q2	41 R-Q7 ch	K-B4
19 QR-N1	B-Q7	42 B-Q8	P-R3
20 R-B2	KR-Q1	43 R-N7	R-R5
21 BxP	K-B1	44 P-R7	K-Q4
22 N-B5	R-B2	45 P-B3	K-Q3
23 R(N1)-N2	R-Q3	46 R-N6 ch	Resigns

In the report of the resumed sixth game between Korchnoi and Kasparov in yesterday's early editions, the following four moves were omitted: 41 PxR, BxP ch; 42 K-K2, R-B6; 60 K-K7, R-Q4; 61 R-Q3, K-B5.



Overseas selling prices
Austria Sch 28; Belgium B frs 50; Canada $2.75; Canaries Pes 160; Cyprus 850 mils; Denmark Dkr 8.50; Finland Mkk 6.00; France Frs 7.00; Germany DM 3.00; Greece Dr 100; Holland Gl 3.25; Irish Republic 40p; Italy L 2200; Luxembourg Lf 38; Madeira Esc 120; Morocco Dir 6.00; Norway Kr 7.50; Pakistan Rps 12; Portugal Esc 125; Singapore $5.00; Spain Pes 160; Sweden Skr 8.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Tunisia Din 0.700; USA $1.50; Yugoslavia Din 100

Social trends: 1

Nation of greater material wealth but less emotional stability

By Nicholas Timmins

A nation with more divorce, more illegitimate births, more people living alone, and a wider income between unemployed and employed families emerge today from *Social Trends*, the Government's annual view of British life.

But the Central Statistical Office's compendium also shows a small rise in real incomes last year and more people owning their houses and deep freezes, colour televisions, dishwashers, washing machines and cars.

The statistics show a steady rise in illegitimate births, to 14 per cent of the total in England and Wales last year against 6 per cent in 1961, and among teenage mothers the number of *illegitimate births outstripped* legitimate births for the first time: 29,000 against 27,000. Many of these, however, were jointly registered by both parents: 46 per cent against 34 per cent in 1975.

More people are living together before marriage: 21 per cent of partners up to the age of 34 marrying for the first time in the period 1979 to 1981, against 8 per cent between 1970 and 1974.

The marriage rate has continued to decline, but the divorce rate after dipping in 1981 rose again last year to 159,000, almost double the number of a decade earlier.

The desire to try again remains common, however. Nearly a quarter of women aged under 35 who separated between 1970 and 1974 had remarried within three years, and 52 per cent had done so within six years.

The increase in divorce and illegitimate births means the proportion of lone parents with dependent children has doubled from 2.5 per cent in 1961 to almost 5 per cent last year.

The *percentage* of people living alone has also increased in the same period, from 4 per cent to 9 per cent. That rise is chiefly due to the increase in widows and widowers among those over 65, whose numbers are expected to remain fairly steady until the year 2000, but with a steep increase in those aged over 75 and 85.

Nearly half of women aged over 65 now live alone, against a third in 1959. The number of men over 65 living alone has almost doubled to 21 per cent. "Living alone does not necessarily equate with loneliness, but almost certainly it tends to", the report says.

While real spending in pensioner households has risen by 40 per cent since 1959, the gains made by pensioners have almost certainly failed to match those enjoyed by the rest of the population, the report says in a special section on the elderly.

However, "it is now unusual to find an elderly person without a television set or a refrigerator or a washing machine and more than half have a telephone, a rare piece of apparatus in the homes of elderly people in 1959".

The report also shows that unemployment tends increasingly to be concentrated in families. Between 1976 and 1982, it has become increasingly less likely for the unemployed head of a household to have another worker in the family, while for the employed it has become more likely.

This is partly because in the same period it became more likely for a man who had a job to have a wife who was also working.

"One result of these trends is that the gap between the average gross income of households with unemployed heads and those of households with employed heads has widened in recent years."

In April this year, there were three million unemployed of whom a fifth had been out of work for more than two years and another fifth had been jobless for more than a year.

The survey also shows that Britain's record as a nation of animal lovers is in decline, that people are sending more greetings cards but fewer social letters, and that the nation is becoming noisier at home.

Relatively fewer households kept pets in 1982 than in 1959 with only dogs maintaining their popularity, while cats, budgerigars and other pets lost favour.

Social Trends 14, Central Statistical Office (Stationery Office, £19.95).

British at play: Hard-drinking sportsmen

By Kenneth Gosling

Leisure last year was dominated by outdoor activities, more people taking part in sports such as squash, swimming and tennis than going to greyhound or horse races, football or cricket matches.

Many so-called minority sports were much more popular than in 1971; badminton, for example, had 109,000 club players against 66,000 in 1971, while there were 50,000 amateur boxers, an increase of 20,000.

When Britons were not chasing shuttlecocks or knocking the stuffing out of each other, they were spending most of their spare cash on drink, topping the list in all income ranges.

As they enjoyed their favourite tipple, they spent less time watching television and more listening to the radio.

The report says the largest increase between 1976 and 1982 was in listening to independent local radio, which doubled over the period, reflecting not only increased popularity but the rise in the number of local stations.

But BBC national radio networks still accounted for most listening time. Radio 1 was the most popular service with 15.4 per cent of the population aged four years and over listening on an average day. Independent radio had the second largest audience, with 13.7 per cent.

In June this year the average television viewer watched BBC1 for nearly an hour a day, BBC2 for 20 minutes, independent television for just under an hour and 10 minutes and Channel 4 for only six minutes.

Going out to be entertained proved less popular. Only 60 million cinema tickets were sold in 1982, about 65 per cent down on 1971.

A full house at bingo was also becoming rarer. The number of *clubs fell* every year from *1978*; in that year there were 1,775; last year 1,556. The amount staked on bingo fell from £491m to £464m between 1981 and 1982.

Attendances at sporting events

	1982 (000s)	1971 (000s)
*Football League matches		
English	18,700	28,700
Scottish	2,900	4,500
Greyhound racing	5,300	8,800
Motor sports	4,000	n/a
Horse racing	3,700	4,200
†Motorcycle sports	3,000	n/a
Rugby League	1,668	1,170
Test, county cricket	782	84
Rugby Union (Eng)	750	700
Basketball:		
England	257	2
Scotland	47	9

*Football attendance figures are for the seasons 1982-3 and 1971-2. League attendances break down to Division 1, 9.296m (14.485m); Div 2, 4.975m (6.769m); Div 3, 2.944m (4.697m); Div 4, 1.552m (2.749m). 1971-2 figures in parentheses.
†Excluding speedway

Cinema attendances

	1982	1971
*Cinema screens	1,452	1,482
Admissions	60.2m	176m
Average charge	177.4p	34.3p

*The number of cinemas has fallen from 1,420 in 1971 to 803 last year, but the number of screens has remained almost constant with the advent of multi-screen complexes.

Source: Department of Trade and Industry

Holidays

	1982 (millions)	1971 (millions)
*Holidays taken by residents of Great Britain		
In Great Britain	33	34
Abroad	14	7

*Four or more days away from home considered by the respondent to be a holiday.

Source: British Tourist Authority

Gambling attracted fewer people. Although the estimated amount of money staked in gambling clubs in the year ended August 1982 was £1,007m compared with £930m the previous year, the number of clubs had fallen from 126 to 117.

Fewer holidays were taken last year but more of them were spent abroad: up from 13 million to 14 million. Spain remained the most popular destination overseas, its share of total foreign holidays rising from 26 per cent in 1981 to 30 per cent last year.

The only destination to show a substantial fall in its share was the United States.

And although, next to alcohol, people spent most of their spare cash on television, radio and musical instruments, households with gross weekly income of £240 or more spent a greater amount on their holidays.

The British continued to buy, borrow and read books; but they also used libraries to take out video tapes when they became available. More than 14 million issues were made in 1981-82

Tomorrow: Education
What people earn, page 17



The Princess of Wales during a visit yesterday to the Queen Elizabeth II Silver Jubilee Activities Centre at Bursledon, near Southampton, which provides sports for disabled people.

Sales boom may save post offices

By Bill Johnstone
Electronics Correspondent

The success of counter services created by the Post Office in the past year, including the sale of bus passes, travellers' cheques and items from mail order catalogues, could reprieve many of the post offices threatened with closure because of unprofitablity.

The new sevices will be crucial to the Post Office's decision to close 1,609 of he 9,533 town sub-post offices. The decisions on these findings, the result of a three-month Post Office study, are to be made in the new year. The survey was the first comprehensive one on post offices to be conducted in 20 years.

About 269 main offices are believed to be marginal in their commercial performance, with 172 making a lose.

More than 2.5 million bus passes are now being sold every year through post offices. In London one million pensioners' passes are sold, while about the same number for all age groups are being sold in West Yorkshire.

The Post Office has introduced the new services to compensate for revenue lost through the decision two years ago to pay social security benefits directly by cheque.

Customers can now order goods from some mail order catalogues at post offices using the Transcash service, and extension of Girobank.

Items advertised in special television campaigns can now be purchased at post offices through a service called Teleshop. These goods include general household products and have been advertised in the Grampian, Border, Tyne-Tees, Yorkshire and Television South-West regions.

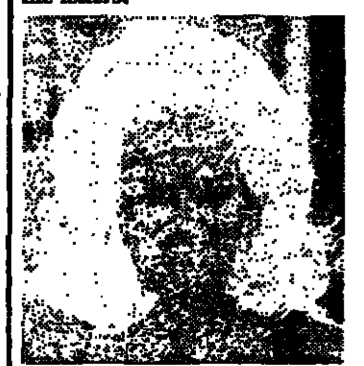
Sterling travellers' cheques and a photographic service called Bonusprint are also available in most of the 20,000 post offices.

Diana Dors postpones writ over fan mail

Miss Diana Dors yesterday adjourned her application for an injunction against her employers at TV-am over 3,000 fan mail letters for one week, in the hope that they can settle the matter out of court.

She had issued a High Court writ for the company to return the letters, many of which requested a diet calculator she used in her recent "fight against flab" on the *Good Morning Britain* show.

Miss Dors, aged 52, said outside the Law Courts in London yesterday: "I hope that it can all be settled amicably. I am very sorry that they kept the letters.



Diana Dors: Dispute with TV-am

The dispute started when Miss Dors gave the brand name of the calculator, which she said was her "secret weapon" which helped her to lose 54lb.

She said yesterday: "I have no financial interest in the calculator at all. But TV-am, who sponsored my diet, said I was breaking IBA rules by illegally advertising in normal air time and the letters belonged to them.

"I have apologized to them if I was breaking any rules and even offerd to resign but they said 'no'. They told me my show had hoisted them in the ratings. I shall be going into work as normal this Friday. Nobody has told me not to."

Less bread eaten at home

Consumption of bread in British homes has fallen by more than 40 per cent in the past 30 years, although 10 million large loaves are still eaten daily, according to a report published yesterday.

In Britain consumption a head a week has fallen from 56oz in 1954 to less than 32oz last year. During this time, however, the population has increased from 51 million to 55 million and "considerably more bread is now eaten outside the home", according to the Federation of Bakers.

"The amount of bread eaten in canteens, cafés, restaurants, pubs and so on has been growing over recent years and may now be equivalent to about 20 per cent of the household figure", the report said.

The Welsh eat more bread than anyone else in Britain, consuming 36.8oz a head a week, followed by the Scots at 35.2oz. The least bread is eaten in the South-east and in East Anglia – 27.6oz a head. Brown bread accounts for less than 18 per cent of total sales.

Wife sees heart-lung transplant patient

By Thomson Prentice, Medical Reporter

Less than 24 hours after his operation, Lars Ljungberg, aged 32, took a breath with his new lungs yesterday and waved to his wife to signal the initial success of Britain's first combined heart and lungs transplant. Later she was able to join him at his bedside and they spoke briefly.

Mr Magdi Yacoub, who carried out the operation at Harefield Hospital, West London, with a team of almost twenty surgeons, technicians and nurses, said: "Progress is as good as we hoped it would be. We are very pleased."

Mr Ljungberg, a Swedish journalist, had waited six weeks at the hospital until donor organs for the operation were found on Monday.

Mr Ljungberg was able to breathe yesterday without the aid of a ventilator for the first time since the operation.

The operation cost £20,000. It was paid for by Mr Ljungberg's local health authority in Sweden where heart *transplants are not permitted.*

Hansard goes on computer

By Bill Johnstone
Electronics Correspondent

The text of the House of Commons *Official Report*, *Hansard*, the record of parliamentary debates and business, is being made available on computer terminals.

The service offered by the British *computer* software (programs) group, Scicon, is an extension of the system that the company began in late 1980 listing indexes of *Hansard* entries. That system acquired the acronym Polis (Parliamentary On-Line Information Service).

Scicon has more than 100 clients outside the Commons attached to its network. They are in central and local government, the trade and professional institutions, the media, business, and academic life.

According to the computer group, a market survey in the autumn of last year indicated that there was an appreciable demand by those who used the index servce to have access to the full text on screen.

The text available is intended to start on November 3, 1982, when the last session of Parliament began.

The group's computer is based in Milton Keynes in Buckinghamshire and the *Hansard* files will be updated each day.



New police chief: Mr Donald Elliott (above), aged 52, was yesterday appointed Chief Constable of Devon. He takes over from Mr David East, aged 47, who left Devon in October to become Chief Constable of South Wales.

£5 farmhand loses plea for compensation

A claim by Mr George Allsop, aged 66, a farmhand, for *compensation* from a couple he helped for 15 years was rejected by an industrial tribunal in Birmingham yesterday.

Mr Allsop claimed he was paid £5 a week for helping to look after livestock at the farm of Mr Robert Morris, a businessman, and his wife, at Stoke Bliss, near Tenbury Wells, Hereford and Worcester.

But the tribunal ruled that Mr Allsop was never employed by Mr Morris.

Coward plays for Radio 4

Five Noël Coward plays, *Blithe Spirit*, *Hay Fever*, *Brief Encounter*, *Private Lives*, and *Desing for Living*, are among Radio 4 Christmas programmes, announced yesterday.

Repeats of the popular *Quote, Unquote*, *Desert Island Discs*, *Just a Minute* and *Down Your Way* programmes will be heard each weekday over the holiday periods. They are among the most requested shows, the BBC said.

Charities given bank building

National Westminster Bank is giving a five-storey building in Brixton, south London, valued at £500,000, to a group of charities to be used for helping and educating disabled people. The bank had used the building as a computer centre.

The donation is the largest single allocation from the bank's £1.2m inner city development programme which will be fully assigned by next April.

Fire kills baby

Julie McKnight, aged one, was killed and her two sisters were injured when a fire swept a flat in Lower Line Road, Oldham, Greater Manchester, yesterday.

Straw burning code urged

Landowners yesterday called on the Government to publish before Christmas its new model by-law on straw burning to ensure there is enough time for local authorities to enforce it during next year's harvest.

Mr John Norris, of the 50,000-member Country Landowners' Association, said that without straw burning there would be a drop in the proportion of winter sown cereals which had been responsible for record yields.

"It is a practice which has therefore been of great economic benefit to cereal growers and its continuation is crucial to successful cereal production.

Conflict over 'fresh' milk

A dairy farmer who labelled as "fresh" milk supplied straight from the cow to the customer has been told he may lose his licence unless he removes the offending word.

Mr Hugh Blackburne was warned by the *Ministry of* Agriculture after he began to sell milk that was not bought by the big dairies from his farm in Haley, Surrey. It was labelled "Fresh Jersey milk" and "Raw and unpasteurized". *The ministry* ruled that Mr Blackburne's milk could not be called "fresh".

Mr Blackburne said: "It seems a bit drastic for them to threaten to withdraw my licence, but they always say it is due to EEC regulations.

"What annoys me is that they say milk straight from the cow, *put in containers and sold* immediately is not fresh, but that the same milk when taken away, pasteurized and delivered two days later, is."

Mr Blackburne has submitted a *different* label to the *ministry* which still describes the product as "fresh", but also includes the words "untreated milk".

Meat import warning to shoppers

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

The Ministry of Agriculture has issued a warning that people returning from Christmas shopping exeditions abroad must declare all uncooked meats and meat products to Customs.

There have been a number of outbreaks of swine fever and other animal diseases on the Continent and it is feared that products which are quite safe for human consumption could spread infection to Britain.

Meat imported commercially must carry veterinary certification that it comes from disease-free areas and healthy animals. But stores and supermarkets in continental Channel ports are expecting a record number of British visitors in the *next two weeks, many of whom* may be tempted to buy things like bacon, ham, salami and sausage.

There is a ban on these products from all countries except France, and a total prohibition on poultrymeat, offal and uncooked pork.

Although there is a standard allowance of one kilogram of other meats and one kilogram of meat products, the ministry would like to discourage people from bringing in any meat at all because it does not travel well and may be a health hazard.

PARLIAMENT December 7 1983

Patched-up compromise would have been unsatisfactory

EEC SUMMIT

It was regrettable that the European Council of heads of state and government meeting in Athens earlier this week was not able to make the necessary progress for the next stage of the Community's development, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said in a statement to the Commons.

I had made it clear (she said) that I would not consider an increase in own resources unless there was agreement on a fair sharing of the budgetary burden and an effective control of agricultural and other expenditure. There was no such agreement and therefore for the United Kingdom the question of an increase of the Community's resources did not arise.

Mrs Thatcher said: At its previous meeting in Stuttgart the European Council had agreed that it was essential at this stage to consider the long-term future of the European Community and to tackle certain fundamental problems – in particular, agricultural surpluses; effective control of Community spending; and a fairer distribution of the burden of financing the Community.

We were all agreed that the Stuttgart package had to be taken as a whole and that decisions on each item depended on agreement on the rest.

Unfortunately, the Community was not ready at Athens to take the necessary decisions. A number of member states wished to follow past practice and adopt a number of unsatisfactory compromises.

On agriculture, the main issues discussed at Athens were price policy and the limitation of open ended guarantees; action to curb the milk surplus; import and export policy; the proposed oils and fats tax; and monetary compensatory amounts.

There was considerable difference of view on price policy, on the volume of milk that might be subject to quota and superlevy and on various requests and proposals from some countries for exemptions.

The UK is among those member states which consider that a rigorous price policy is essential; that any other arrangements for milk such as a superlevy should be non-discriminatory; and that the surpluses of many other Community products need to be dealt with as well. Four member states, including the United Kingdom, made it clear that the proposal for an oils and fats tax was unacceptable.

On monetary compensatory amounts, the differences between France and Germany were not resolved.

With regard to the unfair budgetary burden, there was some recognition that a lasting solution must be found which would put limits on the net contributions of the member states – limits which are related to ability to pay. This would be implemented by correcting the VAT contribution of the member state concerned in the following year.

The majority of countries wished to establish a lasting system on the above lines which would be part and parcel of any decision on new resources. Unfortunately, although preparatory negotiations on this matter had made considerable progress, not all member states agreed to this approach and, accordingly, no decisions could be taken.

Similarly, with the problem of increasing Community expenditure, the will to control it effectively was just not present at the Athens meeting.

Even the ideas recently advanced by the French Government were not accepted by all countries as a basis for discussion. I made it clear that there must be strict guidelines for agricultural spending which must be embodied in the budgetary procedures of the Community.

Unless the agricultural and financial issues can be resolved, the resources for new policies such as cooperation in research and development are very limited indeed – though many of us recognize that in the long run they are very important and that room should be made for them.

International questions such as Cyprus and the Lebanon were not discussed in plenary session but were, of course, much discussed outside it. No official statements were issued on these or any other matters.

Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition (Islwyn, Lab): Yesterday we were given what we interpreted as a genuine undertaking that we could look forward to a statement from the Prime Minister in the course of the Government's review of the British presence in Beirut. No such statement has been forthcoming in this statement. There is great concern, especially in the wake of reports that a British Landrover has been knocked out and that British forces have been under fire.

She tried to lay the blame for the unmitigated failure of the Athens summit on everyone but herself. We are used to that from the banana skin Prime Minister. On her return from the Stuttgart summit in late June she said she expected great success in Athens on budgetary reform, equitable sharing of burdens and control of expenditure.

She is quoted in today's newspapers as saying that the deepening crisis will sharpen her partners' minds and that they will be brought to order by the Brussels meeting in March. What does she think will change between Athens in December and Brussels in March. Why should the French change their position in those months? Does she really think that fundamental reforms are more likely under the French presidency of the Council than they have been under the Greek presidency?


Rippon: Open failure better than pretended success

Thanks to the failure in Athens we have no agreement on the 1984 rebate for 1983 which was agreed in Stuttgart. Who suffers most pressure in the build-up to Brussels from that ourselves or countries whose governments opposed significant reforms in the system of financing?

What constructive response did she make in Athens to the positive proposals put to her for joint action by member governments to raise falling investment and reduce unemployment across the whole continent of Europe?

In his autumn financial statement the Chancellor budgeted for £420m or a 50 per cent increase in United Kingdom spending on agricultural intervention next year. Was the signal given by the Chancellor deliberate or was it sheer stupidity?

Does she not recognize that negotiating posture at the Athens summit? So not all these considerations leave us worse off now than when she went to Athens?

She can make much greater progress by the time of Brussels by assuring us that there can be no question of her coming here to ask for any increase on our own resources VAT contribution. Will she insist in the farm price review next year that if no progress has been made there will be a reduction in British farm prices to reduce the cost to the common agricultural policy?

Will she declare her determination to withold all or part of our contribution until agreement is reached upon fundamental changes in the Common Market which will remove the persistent disadvantages of British membership? Unless she is prepared to take such action none of her posturing will impress the British people.

Mrs Thatcher: On Lebanon, we believe that we must continue to consult those countries who are also involved in the multinational force and that decisions must be taken together. The British contingent is very much valued by all parts of the Lebanese community. They would be upset, even dismayed, if our very valuable force, small though it may be, were to pull out.

There would be considerable repercussions not only among the various communities in the Lebanon and the Arab and Jewish communities beyond but within the Alliance if there were to be any suggestion that we should unilaterally pull out or be thought in any to be leading a retreat. We will not.

Mr Kinnock has no idea of how difficult it is to get agreement between 10 countries when discussing the whole of the matter under the purview of the European Community. When you are doing a functional job you have to get complete unanimity among all the partners. Their interests are very different.

Some of those who are great beneficiaries of the Community wish to carry on exactly as they are.

I doubt whether the Common Market will be in real financial difficulty until the autumn, but the present policies cannot carry on indefinitely because there will not be money for them to carry on. That is the point when we are most likely to get reform. If I had accepted some of the compromises that were put before us Mr Kinnock would really be able to criticize.

With regard to the 1983 rebates, the 750 million Ecus agreed at Stuttgart are not yet in default. The Common Market is not in default with Britain. That 750 million is due by the last day of March. I believe that Mr Kinnock would like it to default.

It would be fare better if we were able to agree as far as possible. We get a lot of jobs in this country because we are members of the Community. If we were to get out there would be a lot of investment and jobs lost – not least in Wales.

With regard to the suggestion that we withhold, the Common Market is not in default with Britain yet and we are not in default of the Common Market. Let us try to keep things on a legal and honourable bases and hope that the 750 million Ecus will be forthcoming by the end of March.

Mr Geoffrey Rippon (Hexham, C): While agreeing it is probably better to have an open failure at Athens rather than a pretended success, it might be better not to have another meeting of heads of state and heads of governments until there is a firmer basis of agreement achieved at a lower level.

Mrs Thatcher said she had not wanted a patched-up compromise which would have been unsatisfactory.

The next regular scheduled meeting is in March. I agree there is no point in accelerating or putting forward a meeting until much more preparatory work has been done on the detail. Some of the detail should be agreed by ministers.

Dr David Owen (Plymouth, Devonport, SDP) said Mrs Thatcher's position adopted at Athens had the support of most British people. What was more, it was in the Community's own interest. The SDP would support it.

On the Lebanon (he said) she has rightly rejected cutting and running by the peacekeeping force. But, with our European partners, we should take a diplomatic initiative to establish the independence of the *peacekeeping forces* and the restoration of peace, and should urge on our American allies the need to look again at the Lebanese-Israeli agreement to take account of the feelings of the Muslim population in *Lebanon and the Syrian government* position?

Mrs Thatcher said foreign ministers would meet on Thursday. Dr Owen's points would be pursued vigorously.

Sir Peter Blaker (Blackpool South, C) said one objective should be closer consultation between the governments contributing to the multinational force. If Britain withdrew her force unilaterally, that would defeat that objective.

Mrs Thatcher said Britain had no intention of withdrawing unilaterally. It was valued.

We do (she said) need closer consultation with the United States. We meet frequently with our European partners but not so frequently with the united States, and this will be one value of the Nato and foreign ministers' meeting which will include Mr Schultz.

Mr Jack Ashley (Stoke on Trent South, Lab) said the Prime Minister deserved support from all sides of the House for her efforts to defend British interests so unambiguously.

But would she consider withdrawal of British payments to the EEC and also the preparation of contingency arrangements for the break-up of the Community which would ensure that she really meant business in fighting for British interests?

Mrs Thatcher: On contingency arrangements, no. It would not be right to prepare for an event which I do not believe will occur.

On withholding, the EEC is not in default with us. Were it to default on its obligations then we should have to take steps to safeguard our position.

Mr Roy Jenkins (Glasgow, Hillhead, SDP) said Mrs Thatcher threw away a good solution three years ago in Brussels but there was nothing on which she could have settled in Athens, no serious resolve to get hold of agricultural spending. She was right to play for time.


Ashley: Prepare for the break-up of Community

But the stakes are high for March and June in 1984, particularly when there is increasing distrust across the Atlantic. If the Community were to begin to disintegrate, the dangers in terms of money and security and Europe could far exceed even the issues discussed at Athens.

Mrs Thatcher said that she had got a better solution than the one Mr Jenkins had said she had thrown away. The fact that the stakes were high was an extra reason the Community *should be prepared* to have strict financial guidelines and fair sharing of the burden and be prepared to key that new system into a possible agreement to extend own resources.

During later questions, *Mrs Thatcher* said that with an even larger Community of 12, some relationships were bound to be slightly looser because it was not possible to agree everything when there were disparate views.

She also agreed on the necessity for more cooperation on high technology. Europe had lost out to the Japanese and the United States here, though the EEC was a larger market and as wealthy as the US and much larger than Japan. She would like some room made from the agriculture budget to get more industrial cooperation and esprit.

Sir Anthony Meyer (Clwyd North West, C) said *Mrs Thatcher* had universal support for her rigid defence of British interests. So did leaders of the other EEC members, many of whom were in a politically weaker position than her.

Is she content at this moment of exceptional peril (he said) to allow time merely to operate on them to bring them round to our point of view in view of the need for the EEC to exercise a united, moderating influence on the United States?

Mrs Thatcher said that undoubtedly some of the decisions involved at Athens would be difficult politically; each country would have *to take some penalties and get some* gains.

Often it was the coalition governments that were in most difficulty.

Mr Tam Dalyell (Linlithgow, Lab): Why does she think that Washington treated us so cavalierly over the Lebanon air strike? Could it possibly be tit for tat over her disgraceful attitude to Washington in sending the fleet to the Falklands and the sinking of the Belgrano?

Mrs Thatcher: The United States did not treat us in a cavalier fashion over the air strike. Decisions on self-defence have to be taken on the spot and the cooperation between commanders of the multinational force on the spot is excellent.

Mr David Crouch (Canterbury, C): So long as the role of the British force in the Lebanon is an inter-position peacekeeping role, *they* should remain. When anarchy and lawlessness breaks out on the streets, that is not the time to remove the police force.

Mrs Thatcher: We are concerned with the safety of our forces. That is why some weeks ago we sent a force of Buccaneers to Cyprus to be there should they be needed, and two days ago HMS Fearless arrived to help if required.

This is a genuine peace-keeping *role and it* is highly valued. The consequences of withdrawal would be very serious. So far, it has not been possible to get a United Nations supervisory force to take its place. It is technically possible, there is nothing to stop it except that so far the Soviet Union has not given agreement to it.

Mr Peter Temple-Morris (Leominster, C): There is increasing reluctant reservation about the drift *of United States* policy on the Middle East. If that drift is allowed to continue unchecked, that could result in the greatest danger to the British peacekeeping force.

Mrs Thatcher: Of course we share his concern at any increase in violence, first because of the violence itself and secondly because it is not conducive to the resolution talks which the President of the Lebanon will be having soon in Geneva.

Mr Paddy Ashdown (Yeovil, L): The Community is said to be running out of money. There will be considerable temptation for the Community to dip into the regional and social funds in order to offset the deficit in agriculture and other areas. The maintenance of the integrity of these two funds is essential for the future development of the Common Market.

Mrs Thatcher: Community funds have to be used in accordance with the rules. I hope the two funds will be kept separate. I do not accept we must have enlargement of the fund at any price, except with the strict guidelines of financial control in the budgetary procedure.

● When the statement was repeated in the House of Lords **Viscount Whitelaw**, Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House, denied, in reply to Lord Molloy (Lab), that Mrs Thatcher was being "pushed around".

I have never (he said) heard of anyone pushing her around. She was pushing them around. (Laughter and cheers) She will stand up for our interests.

Nor did he accept that the disagreement at Athens was a *"lamentable defeat for the Government"*.

We did not lose anything. (he commented) We did not gain anything, nor did anyone else.

Government determined to get the right answers

EEC FINANCE

The conclusions of the EEC summit in Athens had, of course, been disappointing to the Government, but a solution to the problems had to be found, Sir Geoffrey Howe, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Relations, said during question time in the Commons.

Sir Geoffrey Howe had said that the conditions in which the British Government would consider an increase in own resources were unchanged since the Prime Minister had spelt them out at the European Council in Stuttgart in June. Before any increase can be considered (he said) there must be effective control of agricultural and other expenditure and an arrangement to ensure a fair sharing of the Community's financial burden. The Prime Minister confirmed that in Athens yesterday (Tuesday).

Mr Tony Marlow (Northampton, North, C): Would it not be sensible to concentrate on one thing at a *time and delay discussion of the* entry of Spain and Portugal until the EEC has sorted out the United Kingdom contribution and the common agricultural policy? The Government should make clear that *until the CAP has been sorted out*, there can be no increase in our own resources.

Sir Geoffrey Howe: Obviously the manner and order in which these subjects are discussed will be decided in the light of the failure to reach agreement in Athens.

Mr Robin Cook, chief Opposition spokesman on European and Community affairs: In Athens the *Government failed to get any of the* conditions it set out for an increase in own resources.

Will he confirm that the proposed modulation of VAT discussed at Athens would not meet the British position on budgetary *matters* since it leaves untouched the customs levy and ignores the import levies which are the real cause of British disadvantage in the budget.

Will he tell us that under present *circumstances there is no prospect* of Parliament being to asked to increase the levies paid by the British people to finance agriculture expenditure which the Community, all too self-evidently, has no *intention of reforming*.

Sir Geoffrey Howe: Of course the conclusions of the summit are disappointing to the Government, and should be to all of us, because it is crucially important that the Community *should resolve these* questions.

He is wrong to say that the Government failed to establish its position. It was crystal clear. We want the Community to resolve *these matters*.

There are two different aspects of modulation of VAT. It is possible to design a method which will produce adequate relief if our contribution is operated solely by abatement of contributions of VAT. But modulation of VAT can take various forms which would not achiecve that.

It would be wrong for the House to conclude that there is no prospect of resolution of these important questions, of not being prepared to accept the facts, as he does, but the problems have to be resolved.

Labour MPs: When?

Sir Geoffrey Howe: It does not lie within the power of the British *Government*.

It is time that Mr Cook, instead of sitting back and expressing pleasure at the absence of agreement, recognized the importance of our achieving headway on these matters and recognizing, *above all, that the* British Goverment's positoin is clear, in its determination to get proper answers to these questions.

● Later, **Sir Geoffrey Howe** said *there was no question* of the Government accepting a humiliating climb-down on the CAP following the Athens summit.

Mr John Maxton (Glasgow, Cathcart, Lab): Since it is clear that France and other countries will not even accept the most minor change in the CAP, how on earth does the Foreign Secretary expect them to accept the major changes that this Government and this House expects to be made?


Beaumont-Dark: Food we do not want

If it is the case that they will not accept it, is the Government going to create a major constitutional crisis over Europe or is it going yet again to go in for a humiliating climb-down on this issue?

Sir Geoffrey Howe: There is no question of this Government making a humiliating climb-down on this or any other issue. There was widespread recognition throughout *negotiations at Athens of the need* to ensure fundamental reform of the CAP.

There was before us a French document recognizing the need for control of Community expenditure, so the topic was plainly under discussion. Unfortunately that will did not go far enough to secure sufficiently effective control. That is one of the reasons we were not prepared to accept that conclusion.

Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark (Birmingham, Selly Oak, C): Would not one of the best mechanisms of controlling the CAP be to stop farmers growing food we do not want at prices we cannot afford?

Sir Geoffrey Howe: That is a shrewd and perceptive observation. (Laughter) Control of agricultural surpluses directed particularly at milk was one of the issues on which we and other states were prepared *to* agree, but agreement *did not spread far* enough yesterday.

Mr Ioan Evans (Cynon Valley, Lab): There is scandalous destruction of fruit, vegetables and dairy food. When is the Government going to take a stand not only over increasing own resources but stopping any resources going into the Common Market unless this is sorted out?

***Sir Geoffrey Howe**: Agricultural* protection regimes in many other countries have unintended effects of the kind he describes. That is one of the reasons why our stand is directed to secure effective control of the growth of *agricultural* expenditure and a proper regime within the Community to tackle precisely problems of that kind.

Mr Edward Taylor (Southend East, C): Most of us would accept that the Government has done a great service by making it clear it believed CAP expenditure should be contained and controlled. But there are quite a number of us who have listened to the debate and all the statements and still have not the slightest idea of how precisely the Government think that containing or restraining should actually be done. (*Labour cheers*)

***Sir Geoffrey Howe**: The essence of* the approach is that there must be a proper limit on the size of expenditure on agriculture policy accompanied by effective controls.

Mr Robin Cook, chief Opposition spokesman: If this Government is so committed to effective control over agriculture, why is the Chancellor budgeting for a 15 per cent increase in expenditure on agriculture intervention?

Sir Geoffrey Howe: There is no conclusion on what the outcome of these *negotiations* will be. The House should be in no doubt after the debate last week that one of the conditions for a successful conclusion of the Stuttgart-Athens agenda is achieving effective control in the rate of agriculture expenditure.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Appropriation (No 3) (Northern Ireland) Order and Northern Ireland (Emergency Provisions) Act 1978 (Continuance) (No 2) Order. **Lords (3)**: Debate on televising the House. Debate on gas and electricity prices.

Anxieties of MPs drawn to attention of US

MIDDLE EAST

It was important for all participants in the multinational peacekeeping force in the Lebanon to act in a fashion which was consistent with their original objectives, Sir Geoffrey Howe, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, told the Commons.

He avoided concurring with criticism of United States action which came from both sides of the House and rebuked Mr Denis Healey, chief Opposition spokesman on foreign affairs, who said the Foreign Secretary had been led up the garden path by the US Administration on the Lebanon just as he had over Grenada.

Sir Geoffrey Howe said the lack of a progress towards a comprehensive *peace settlement in the Middle East* was deeply disappointing.

We believe, he said, that President Reagan's proposals of September 1 1982 still offer a realistic basis for negotiation.

The parties directly concerned have the primary responsibility for reaching a settlement. But we shall continue to play an active role in urging them to settle their differences by negotiation.

Mr Dennis Walters (Westbury, C), *who began the exchanges, said one* of the most effective ways to defuse the present highly dangerous situation in the Middle East would be for the European Community to sponsor a conference at which all *the relevant parties, and both the* United States and the Soviet Union, would participate.

Can the Foreign Secretary do something to persuade our American friends that this is a reality?

Sir Geoffrey Howe, I certainly take note of the suggestion. It is important that every possible alternative should be carefuly examined. I am not sure that particular suggestion would be the easiest way of making progress.

Mr John Cartwright (Woolwich, SDP): Does the Foreign Secretary still believe that there can be no lasting peace in the Middle East that does not recognize that the Palestinians have the same right to a homeland as every other people on this earth?

If this is still the policy of the Government, what steps is it taking *to secure self-determination for the* Palestinian people?

Sir Geoffrey Howe, We have always acknowledged that the Palestinians have to play a part in negotiations on their future. We still believe that it would be a serious mistake if they *were to turn their back on the* possibility of a peaceful solution as a result of the recent upheavals, and that they should be prepared to let Israel live in peace.

Mr Peter Temple-Morris (Leominster, C): *Many.* of *America's* friends and allies have serious reservations about her policy and its application in the Middle East.

Does the Foreign Secretary think that policy and the actions which are furthering *it* are making it easier or less easy for western Arab allies in that very difficult area?

Sir Geoffrey Howe: It is clearly important for the United States to understand the anxieties that have been expressed in this House, and were on Monday. They have been drawn to the attention of the US.

I have seen the President's special envoy in the Middle East, Mr Donald Rumsfeld, today (Wednesday) and will meet in Brussels tonight and tomorrow with Secretary of State, Mr George Shultz, and the other foreign ministers in the multinational force and Nato.

***Mr Andrew Faulds** (Warley East,* Lab): Was the Government consulted before the conclusion of the Israeli-American strategic agreement?

Sir Geoffrey Howe: The recent discussions between the Israeli government and the United States were discussions between two countries discussing their bilateral relations and there was no discussion with us *per se*.

Mr Stephen Dorrell (Loughborough, C): *While there is plenty of* room for doubt about the deepening American involvement in the internal affairs of the Lebanon, by far the most important priority of this House is to defend the main British interest in the continuing strength of the western alliance bedded on this country's alliance with the US.

Sir Geoffrey Howe: It is important that even where there may be differences between members of the alliance we do not forget the fundamental importance of that to the West and this country.

Mr Healey: The US administration has a certain obligation to respect the importance of the alliance in the decisions it takes on issues in other parts of the world.

President Reagan torpedoed his own proposals for a Palestinian settlement which he made in September 1982 by making with the Israeli government what its Prime Minister described as a military alliance and by using military force against Syria in the Lebanon in pursuance of Presidential Directive 111 which was actually signed on October 29.

The excuse given by the Minister of State, Mr Malcolm Rifkind, in the House on Monday that the US action was taken in self-defence was blown out of the way by many reports in the American press from officials in the US administration that this action was decided long before the reconnaissance aircraft were fired on in the Bekea valley.

Si Geoffrey Howe: *It is certainly* important for all the participants in the multinational force to play their part in that force in a fashion which is consistent with their original objectives.

The explanation for the American action in connexion with the Lebanon is something for them to give.

Mr Healey: The Foreign Secretary was led up the garden path by the US administration over the Lebanon as he was led up the garden path over Grenada. Unless he is prepared to stick up for Britain inside the alliance, the alliance will founder.

Sir Geoffrey Howe: Mr Healey scarcely misses an opportunity to attack the US in regard to the allance. He is too often attracted by the simple attraction of denouncing the US.

Calke Abbey consortium suggested

When the future of Calke Abbey in Derbyshire was debated early this (Wednesday) morning, **Mr Neil Macfarlane**, *Under Secretary of* State for Environment, suggested all the interested parties should form a consortium to come up with alternative plans to preserve it.

The matter was raised in the Commons by **Mrs Edwina Currie** (South Derbyshire, C) who described the abbey and its contents as a perfect time capsule and quintessentially English. The owner had offered the house and its contents to the Government in lieu of taxes to be handed over to the National Trust with the house to be eventually opened to the public.

Mr Macfarlane said the Government did not dissent from the view *that Calke Abbey* was an important building and one of considerable historical and architectural interest, *though he questioned* some of the more extravagant claims made for it.

The Government was not prepared to use the acceptance in lieu mechanism as a means of providing endowment funds for the National Trust or any other bodies.

The Government was willing to look at any alternative proposals the trustees could put forward. If they or the National Heritage Memorial Fund or some consortium could develop a significantly different approach, the Government would *look* at it constructively.

It would be helpful if the various interested parties could get together to look at possible alternatives.

Murdered assemblyman advised on security

ULSTER

The problems of Northern Ireland could only be resolved when the two communities there had found ways of living harmoniously together, **Mr Adam Butler**, Minister of State for Northern Ireland said, after making a Commons statement about the killing of Mr Edgar Graham, a member of the Northern Ireland Assembly earlier in the day, by the Provisional IRA.

During the exchanges it was said that a member of the security forces had discussed his personal security with Mr Graham only last month, and that he had not asked for full personal protection, and nor was he offered it.

Mr Peter Archer, Opposition spokesman on Northern Ireland, said that no measures could guarantee security *until* the communities had learnt to live together. He appealed to those who understandably felt a sense of outrage to realize that measures of retaliation and escalation of violence would only reward the murderers with the objective they had set out to achieve.

Mr Butler agreed and added: If the one purpose behind this brutal murder, as I suspect, is to bring about a spate of retaliatory measures. I share his view that this *should not be allowed to happen.*

The Rev Martin Smyth (Belfast, South, OUP): Even at such short notice, can he tell us why the security forces, having been made aware of an imminent attack on a prominent unionist and having been made aware by me that the most vulnerable was Edgar Graham, no action was taken to provide the necessary protection now proved to have been needful?

Mr Butler: It is worth my putting on record that a meeting with Mr Graham was held on November 24 by a member of the Special Branch of the RUC who gave advice, both about further protection of his home and of his person. I understand that *he did not ask for full personal* protection.

Later he added that Mr Graham had not been offered that protection during the meeting which had been held at his home.

● During exchanges in the Lords, **Lord Fitt** (Ind) said the murder of *Edgar Graham* was yet another indication that the IRA was deliberately trying to push the Catholic and the Protestant communities into conflict

As a Catholic and an Irishman, he found it particularly obscene to see photographs in the press and on television of Catholic priests openly associating with men who wore masks and brandished guns.

A priest at the funeral of one of the IRA men said yesterday at the graveside that surely some law of nature was violated when Irishmen were struck down in this way. *Would he apply* the same standards to Mr Graham's murder? There could no longer be any double standards. Murder was murder.

Crown land to be sold at proper price

Legislation was urgently needed to ensure that when Crown land was sold a *proper price* was obtained *which fully reflected* the development potential of the land, **Mr Neil Macfarlane**, Under Secretary of State for Environment said in moving the second reading of the Town and Country Planning Bill.

The Bill will make it possible for Crown land to be sold with the benefit of an actual planning permission.

Mr Macfarlane said it was clearly in the public interest that, when the Government was disposing of surplus land, the best possible price should be obtained.

It would be quite wrong to allow the developer to make a windfall profit because the development potential was not fully reflected in the purchase price.

From the time of the 1947 planning legislation, which laid the foundation of the present system of land use control, planning permission had not been required for development by the Crown itself, and the Bill did not affect this principle.

When a landowner sold land for development he would normally first obtain an outline planning permission for the proposed development, and the land would then be valued on the basis of that permission.

It had always been recognized that when a Government department was selling surplus land, the department itself could not make such an application, and the practice had sometimes been adopted therefore of inviting either the prospective purchaser or a third party to make a mutually agreed application for planning permission.

The Government had concluded that this practice was invalid.

Mr David Clark, an Opposition *spokesman on the environment*, said they accepted the need for the Bill, which became apparent as a result of the Government's policy in actively encouraging the National Health Service to dispose of land and buildings *in view of* the financial constraints.

In the New Year the Government will issue for consultation proposals to provide up-to-date protections on deductions from pay and subsequently will take the earliest opportunity to repeal the Truck Acts, **the Earl of Gowrie**, Minister of State, privy council office, told the House of Lords at question time.

Peer attacks racial literature

HOUSE OF LORDS

Pieces of literature which he described as examples of the most distorted and wicked racial incitement were brought into the House of Lords chamber by **Lord Mishcon** (Lab), speaking for the Opposition, in a debate on the ethnic and religius minorities in Britain initiated by **Viscount Buckmaster** (Ind).

Lord Mishcon said this literature was being put through people's letter boxes and handed out, in some cases, to children. He would not wish to quote from it in the chamber, but would hand it over to the minister after the debate.

For one reason or another prosecutions could not be, or were not, brought and perhaps the relevent legislation had to be looked at closely again.

He also mantioned marches which had only one object and that was to incite racial fear and hatred. What was being done about this?

The recent report on the Metropolitan Police had found a disastrous lack of confidence in the police among young West Indians, and a level of racial prejudice in the force which gave cause for serious concern. Were the report's recommendations going to be carried out?

Lord Scarman (Ind) said it was a matter of some significance that the findings of the Brixton report by and large had so far stood the passage of time. They were now of necessity moving into a period where unless action was taken the plural society might well become a splintered society.

There should at all levels of government from the centre down to local government be a concerted policy and direction to ensure positive help and action was available for young blacks and to see there was a genuine equality in society.

They should ensure that racially prejudiced conduct by the police was a specific disciplinary offence. The police were resisting this. Work was being done on the code of ethics. The code must have teeth and in some cases there must be severe punishment and even instant dismissal.

A truly independent system for inquiring into complaints against the police was of great importance.

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Nuclear reactor will be economic disaster, professor tells inquiry

Electricity will cost more if the Central Electricity Generating Board builds a pressurized water reactor (PWR) at Sizewell, the public inquiry into the board's £1200m proposal was told yesterday by Professor Jim Jeffrey, an expert on energy economics.

Professor Jeffrey, Professor of Crystallography at London University, claimed the board's economic case for the PWR was invalid on a number of key assumptions. If Sizewell B was built "it would generate electricity at a considerable loss".

Basing his analysis on a detailed examination of the board's calculations, Professor Jeffrey said: "In view of the uncertainties and improbabilities of the board's assumptions about future conditions it wound seem wise to wait until a new station is actually needed before deciding what kind it should be".

Professor Jeffrey, who was giving evidence to the inquiry at Suape maltings, Suffolk, on behalf of the Stop Sizewell B Association, said the board's economic case was suspect because it required a reversal of the rapid decline in the rate of increase in electricity demand; it needed a large increase in the price of coal; and because the board's comparison of the costs of nuclear and coal-fired stations did not take into account the full price of reprocessing spent fuel, radioactive waste disposal or the decommissioning of nuclear reactors.

The PWR was likely to be a "lifetime economic disaster", he said.

The board, he said, had also overestimated the savings it could make across the generating system by using nuclear energy because the displaced coal and oil would not be as expensive as it predicted.

Even if the board's assumptions were correct, electricity costs from a PWR would be higher than at present for the first 20 years of the power station's 35-year life.

The inquiry continues today.

Prisoner to challenge parole ban in court

The Home Secretary's ruling that certain prisoners jailed for more than five years cannot be granted parole until a few months before the end of their sentences is to be challenged in the High Court.

Edward Findlay, who is serving seven years for robbery, was given permission by Mr Justice Woolf in the High Court yesterday to go ahead with a test case.

Mr Edward Fitzgerald, for Findlay, who is at Long Lartin Prison, Hereford and Worcester, said they wanted the court to review the Home Secretary's policy decision last month that any prisoner serving a fixed term sentence of more than five years for offences of violence should be granted parole only a few months before the end of his sentence, unless the circumstances were genuinely exceptional.

They seek a declaration that the policy is unlawful and contravenes the Criminal Justice Act, 1967.

They also seek a declaration that Findlay is entitled to have his case for parole considered on its merits, and an order prohibiting the Home Secretary from applying the new policy.

The judge said it was a case that should be argued fully

Fixed term prisoners are usually eligible for parole after completion of a third of their sentences or 12 months, whichever is longer.



Waxen Chancellor: Karen Newman with her wax sculpture of Dr. Helmut Kohl, the West German Chancellor, which went on show at Madame Tussaud's in London yesterday. Dr Kohl gave clothes from his wardrobe to dress it (Photograph: John Manning).

Christmas card bonanza

Season's greetings 1,300 million times

By Staff Reporters

A record 1,300 million Christmas cards, almost two dozen for every British man, woman and child, are likely to be posted this year, the greeting card industry's trade association said yesterday. Charities are aiming to capture a quarter of the market.

Last year, 1,160 million Christmas cards were sold at a cost of £80m. Of those, 240 million were charity cards, which raised £30m.

The charities' share of the market is expected to increase by between 10 and 30 per cent this year, largely because of more professional marketing techniques.

Where once cards were sold in small shops or from catalogues pasted with samples, the public is now inundated with glossy colour catalogues, mail order brochures and billboards that are the climax of a year's campaign.

The Imperial Cancer Research Fund believes its estimated £900,000 turnover of cards and gifts this year is because of a more aggressive public relations campaign that has included gift sales and publicity about its research.

Charities are also making use of mass mailing lists and computerized record-keeping and are seeking advice from advertising agencies.

Christmas cards account for almost two-thirds of card sales, but only a third of all greeting card spending.

The average Christmas card now costs 7p, although those sold for charity are usually more expensive. The profit margin on all greeting cards averages 40 per cent.

The prediction of record sales this year comes from the Greeting Card and Calendar Association, which can offer a wealth of interesting facts, as well as sales figures.

For example, it reports that the Prime Minister sends about 2,000 Christmas cards each year, while President Reagan "signs" nearly 60,000.

The tiniest Christmas card was allegedly inscribed on a grain of rice and sent to the Prince of Wales in 1929, while the most valuable must have been that sent by the Gaekwar of Baroda to an Englishwoman of his affections.

Made of ivory and decorated with 44 diamonds, the card took six months to make and was said to be worth £500,000 eighty years ago.

The first Christmas card, according to the association, was devised by Sir Henry Cole in 1843 because he had forgotten to send the traditional Christmas letter to his friends. Mechanically printed, but hand-tinted, cards struck him as a reasonable last-minute substitute; the left-over cards were sold in Old Bond Street at a shilling a time, and the rest is history.

India lifts ban on Sikh editor

By David Cross

Mr Tarsem Singh Purewal, editor of a leading Sikh newspaper in Britain, who was arrested and deported from India during a visit to his dying mother last month, is being allowed to return on compassionate grounds. But the Indian Government's decision to allow him an entry permit for two weeks has come too late for him to return to his mother's bedside. She died on November 26 after an operation for cancer of the pancreas.

Mr Purewal, who owns and edits the *Des Pardes* weekly which has a circulation of 35,000 in Britain, northern Europe and Canada, heard from the Foreign Office in London yesterday that he would be allowed to visit Chandigarh from tomorrow until December 23. The Foreign Office got in touch with the Indian authorities after publication of details of Mr Purewal's deportation in *The Times*.

India has given no reasons for Mr Purewal's deportation although it is thought that it resents criticism of its conduct in his newspaper.

Mr Purewal said in London last night that he regretted that he was unable to be at his mother's bedside when she died. Because he was dragged away from the hospital ward by armed police, his mother had believed that he had been murdered by the authorities, he said.

Wheat production sets new record

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

The 1983 United Kingdom cereals harvest totalled 21,370,000 tonnes, about 5 per cent down on last year, but still the second highest ever, according to the first complete official estimates published by the Home Grown Cereals Authority.

Wheat production set a new record of 10,828,000 tonnes, and the average yield was up from 6.2 to 6.4 tonnes a hectare. Yields are now some 40 per cent higher than the average throughout the 1970s partly because of a swing away from milling varieties towards high yielding feed varieties.

The total area planted to barley was down by 70,000 hectares, and average yield down from 4.93 to 4.66 tonnes a hectare, although the yield was still better than in 1980. The swing away from spring barley into winter varieties continues, in spite of the higher costs involved, because the winter crops are better able to withstand climatic vagaries like this year's very wet spring and exceptionally dry summer.

UK CEREAL PRODUCTION 1982 AND 1983

'000 ha; tonnes/ha; '000 tonnes

		ENGLAND & WALES 1982	ENGLAND & WALES 1983	SCOTLAND 1982	SCOTLAND 1983	N.IRELAND 1982	N.IRELAND 1983
WHEAT	Area	1,622	1,643	40	47	1.0	1.5
	Yield	6.18	6.40	7.20	6.39	5.83	5.71
	Prod	10,020	10,515	290	300	5.8	8.4
BARLEY	Area	1,719	1,655	455	451	47.1	46.3
	Yield	4.95	4.75	4.92	4.36	4.25	4.30
	Prod	8,514	7,861	2,240	1,966	200	199
	Winter area	829	842	44*	65*	4.2	4.9
	Spring area	890	813	411	386	42.9	41.4
OATS	Area	96	80	31	25	3.1	3.2
	Yield	4.57	4.45	4.02	3.76	3.11	3.07
	Prod	439	356	126	94	9.6	9.7
TOTAL (a) CEREALS	Area	3,452	3,391	526	524	51.7	51.4
	Prod	19,037	18,790	2,656	2,360	217	219

Winter barley planting for Scotland are December census figures.
The complete June census records the winter/spring split only in England, Wales and N. Ireland.
(a) Total cereals include rye and mixed corn.
Source: Home Grown Cereals Authority.

Charities told to shun politics

Voluntary organizations should keep out of politics and resist government interference the National Council for Voluntary Organizations has told its 360 members.

The council says there has been a 63 per cent increase in government grants to charities and voluntary organizations in recent years but it has been accompanied by more complaints about increasing government pressure on their work.

Guidance issued by the council says organizations should not attempt to influence the electoral process but should "assert and exercise their freedom to advocate changes or continuity in public policy, programmes and law".

Organizations should distinguish between "arm's length" support from government and "cont acts" with government

Headlines complaint rejected

Headlines in a *Daily Mail* election feature which spoke of Conservatives winning seatsf and Labour grabbing them were not mileading, the Press Councl rule today. Although it would have been more obviously impartial to have used the same word the newpaper was not bound to be impartial, the council says.

It rejected a complaint from Mr Barry Coppock, of Parkhill Road, Bexley, Kent, that the paper misleadingly and unfairly slanted the wording of headings over similar sets of tables.

The managing editor, Mr Gordon Cowan, told Mr Coppack that there was nothing significant in the use of the word "grab". The newspaper merely wanted not to repeat the word "win", which had appeared in two headlines on the same page.

Reith lecturer boosts open government lobby

By Peter Hennessy

Sir Douglas Wass, the former Permanent Secretary to the Treasury, came out in favour of open government last night with a fervour that could only embarrass the Prime Minister and Sir Robert Armstrong, Secretary of the Cabinet, with whom he served as Joint Head of the Home Civil Service until last Easter.

In the course of the 1983 BBC Reith lectures, Sir Douglas floated the idea of an external audit on open government which would monitor ministers' fulfilment of pledges to be more forthcoming with *Parliament* and the public.

The system would need an audit staff with full access to official files. The auditors would be empowered to alert Parliament in cases of unjustified supression.

Ministers could be forced to defend their decisions to withhold information in closed session before a Commons select committee. Such a system would be costly to operate but Sir Douglas said it merited serious study.

Sir Douglas' remarks, although they stopped well short of advocating a law to compel Whitehall to open up, represent a boost to the freedom of information lobby which is about to undergo a rebirth when Mr Des Wilson launches his 1984 campaign next month.

At Mrs Margaret Thatcher's behest, Sir Douglas' former colleague, Sir Robert Armstrong, has been trying to stem the pressure for more openness. He has circulated reminders in Whitehall about Britain's secrecy laws and conventions in an attempt to plug leaks.

Sir Douglas offered Sir Robert some comfort last night, however. He condemned leaks unequivocally and upbraided the press for being unscuplulous in its use of them.

But the deliberate publication of more information to raise the quality of public debate was necessary if government was to operate efficiently and responsively, Sir Douglas added.

Brother of Colombian President released

Bogota – A two-minute silence was observed throughout Colombia at noon yesterday as part of a national demonstration for peace in a country torn by both political subversion and violent crime (Geoffrey Matthews writes).

Sensing the national mood, leftist guerrillas released the brother of President Belisario Betancur whom they had kidnapped two weeks ago.

The national demonstration, unprecedented in Colombia's history, started with a signal in national radio and was accompanied by fire brigade sirens and the ringing of church bells. Traffic stopped and people waved white flags.

The demonstration, supported by the Government, had been called by the Liberal and Conservative parties and was backed by a Socialist alliance and the Communist Party. It had been planned before Señor Jaime Betancur was kidnapped in Bogota.

Oberammergau suit fails

Munich – The women of Oberammergau will go on having to be young and single to be allowed to appear in the traditional once-a-decade Passion Play (Barbara von Ow writes).

The Bavarian Constitutional Court yesterday turned down a suit alleging that the pay's regulations violated constitutional rights. Only women who are single, childless and under 35, have the right to elect members to the Passion Play Committee.

Panda ailing



Ling-Ling, the American National Zoo's 12-year-old fem:'e giant panda, is seriously ill with kidney failure. Her chances of recovery were poor, zoo officals in Washington said.

Flynt in dock

Chicago (Reuter) – The sex magazine publisher, Larry Flynt, was jailed yesterday for 60 days for contempt of court after he had shouted obscenities and spat at a Federal judge. He has been in jail in Chicago since his arrest last Saturday for violating a travel ban.

Rapist flogged

Karachi (Reuter) – A young man was flogged in northern Pakistan before a crowd of 25,000 people after an Islamic court convicted him of rape, the Pakistan news agency reported yesterday. Raza Khan received 10 lashes.

Nuclear blast

Wellington (AFP) – New Zealand scientists monitored a small French nuclear test explosion at Mururoa atoll in the South Pacific on Saturday, an official spokesman said yesterday.

£1m ransom paid

La Paz (AFP) – Lufthansa paid £1m for the release of its airline representative here who was kidnapped on November 14, the Bolivian Interior Minister announced. Herr Michael Wurche was freed 11 days after his kidnapping, but his abductors have not been found.

Crisis in Lebanon: Israeli anger grows

Greek ships steam to rescue Arafat

From Mario Modiano
Athens

The first of four Greek ships chartered to evacuate the 4,000 Palestinians loyal to Mr Yassir Arafat, is due to reach the port of Tripoli tomorrow.

The Greek Government responded to a request from the PLO leader for help. The Greek Ministry of Merchant Marine made the arrangements and the four ships will take the Palestinians to North Yemen and Tunisia.

"The ships will fly the flags of Greece and the United Nations, as the whole operation will be under the supervision of the U.N. Secretary-General," a spokesman said.

The contracts were signed yesterday between the Greek shipowners and representatives of the PLO, which will bear the cost, including a two per cent war-risk levy.

● JERUSALEM: Pressure is mounting on the Israeli Government not to let Mr Arafat leave safely after the PLO attack on a Jerusalem bus (Christopher Walker writes).

In an interview in Paris, broadcast by Israel Radio, Mr Ariel Sharon, the former Defence Minister, who is now Minister without Portfolio, claimed that it would be a grave mistake for the Israelis to allow Mr Arafat to leave Lebanon, the cost of which would be the revival of the PLO.

Mr Sharon's demand, reflected the anger felt after Tuesday's explosion which killed four Israelis, including two children, aged 11 and 4, and an elderly man of 77. Ten of the 30 civilians still hospitalized were in a serious condition last night and one was described as critical.

Pressing his call for decisive action against Mr Arafat, the former Defence Minister stressed that the destruction of "the terrorist movement" had been the most important outcome of the Lebanon war. If the PLO was not permitted to reorganize, the way would be open for a Middle East settlement, he said.

Although both wings of the PLO have claimed responsibility for the bus blast, the first claim from Mr Arafat's group in Tripoli is regarded here as the most authentic. A senior Israeli official said that once those responsible had been isolated retaliation would be ordered.

It is known that gunboats and at least one submarine from the Israeli Navy have been mounting a blockade outside Tripoli and that one ship, carrying Mr Arafat's supporters towards the port from Cyprus, was recently intercepted.

Earlier yesterday, Mr Yitzhak Shamir's government comfortably survived a motion of no confidence, arising from its recent unwritten security pact with America. The motion was tabled by the small Israeli Communist Party.

● LONDON: Mr Donald Rumsfeld, President Reagan's special Middle East envoy, spent nearly an hour with Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, and Mr Richard Luce, the Minister of State, at the Foreign Office yesterday while on his way from Washington to Beirut (Henry Stanhope writes).



Business as usual: A member of the British contingent in Beirut, carrying his rifle and a small Union Flag, gets on with the job as his future is debated in London. British soldiers have so far escaped serious injury despite last Friday's destruction of a Land-Rover.

Stick and carrot from Assad

From Robert Fisk, Damascus

Insisting that their American "prisoner of war" was being well treated in military custody in Damascus, the Syrians yesterday handed back to the US Government the body of the airman who died in Sunday's American air raid in Lebanon and announced that Mr Donald Rumsfeld, President Reagan's Middle East envoy, would be welcomed if he came to Damascus.

Mr Abdul Halim Khaddam, the Syrian Foreign Minister, even said that the US should not "lose its role as a mediatory power in the Middle East". It was a striking performance.

It was also a familiar Syrian tactic, a carrot-and-stick approach to Washington that involved further condemnation of the Americans for their strategic agreement with Israel and a formal promise that US reconnaisance flights over Syrian military positions in Lebanon – which the Syrians say are still going on – will continue to be treated as hostile and fired at by ground defences.

According to the Syrian Foreign Ministry yesterday the Americans were "now openly on the side of the Israelis".

Officially the American raids cost the lives of two Syrian soldiers – unofficially the figure is put by diplomats at 40 dead with 120 wounded – and the political repercussions of the air strike are still reverberating through Damascus. It was left to Mr Faruk al-Sharar, the Syrian Minister for Foreign Affairs, to put Syria's case yesterday at a press conference in Damuscus, in which he claimed that the US reconnaisance flights over Lebanon were a violation of international law.

Having obviously studied the consternation of America's allies in the multinational force, Mr al-Sharar, who is one of the Syrian Government's more eloquent spokesmen, observed sharply that the British and Italians were "wiser" than the Americans and French because they were reconsidering the presence of their soldiers in Lebanon.

Even more serious than the air raids, he contended, was the American decision "to adopt the Israeli concept of security" by sending aircraft over the Syrian lines in preparation for a future attack in Lebanon.

Mr al-Sharar said that Lieutenant Robert Goodman, the US pilot captured on Sunday, was officially considered a Prisoner of War.

President Hafez Assad's health was also praised by the minister, who claimed that the Syrian leader had recovered from his operation – officially for an appendicitis but widely believed outside Syria to be a heart ailment – and was now walking seven miles a day as well as carrying out his government duties. Mr Assad, whose health must be truly phenonenal if such peramblations are to be believed, has left the private clinic in western Damascus and returned to his official home at the presidency.

Yet America's policy in the Middle East dominated Mr al-Sharar's press conference. Following their strategic agreement with Tel Aviv, he said, "the Americans are now openly on the side of the Israelis, against all the Arabs' interests and aspirations. This step will be resisted not only by Syria but by all the Arab world.

In an interview with Japanese television yesterday Mr Khaddam suggested that America's chances of redemption were still high. "If Reagan is a hawk, he will have to face hawks here" the Syrian Foreign Minister said, warning as he has done several times before – that America faced another Vietnam in Lebanon.

Dr Elie Salem, the Lebanese Foreign Minister, will be able to test Syria's mood today when he arrives in Damacus to tell Mr Kahaddam the results of the meeting between President Gemayel of Lebanon and President Reagan.

Chastened Americans review their tactics

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

The US Navy is carrying out an investigation into the downing of two of its aircraft over Syrian-occupied Lebanon on Sunday. It may change tactics to reduce losses.

The Americans have been stung by criticism from US and Israeli experts that the strike had been poorly executed, with faulty tactics, inexperienced pilots and aircraft that were too slow.

A US naval officer, who declined to be identified, told journalists that Sunday's losses, two aircraft out of 28 engaged, were just over 7 per cent, which was similar to loss levels during World War Two and in Vietnam.

The relatively heavy loss would be taken into account when planning future raids.

The aircraft met stiffer resistance than expected and information about Syrian anti-aircraft batteries in Lebanon was inadequate, the officer said. A morning haze over the targets had hampered visibility.

General Mordechai Hod, a former Israeli Air Force commander, blamed the American pilots' "lack of experience" for the loss of two aircraft in one raid. Israel has lost only three aircraft since it invaded Lebanon last year.

Another retired Israeli officer, General Avraham Adan, said the Americans suffered from poor tactics and planning.

The American officer disputed claims that the aircraft had dived in "World War Two formation". He said they had dived from 10,000ft to release their bombs at 3,000ft.

He said it was nonsense to say the pilots were inexperienced, pointing out that a third of those assigned to the task force off the coast of Lebanon had combat experience in Vietnam.

He also rejected the charge that the subsonic A6 and A7 bombers used in the raid were too slow. Supersonic aircraft would have had to reduce speed for accurate bombing and would be as vulnerable to missiles as the sub-sonic aircraft.

The officer conceded that the targets attacked were within range of the 16-in guns of the battleship New Jersey, but a forward air controller would have been needed

The Syrian Embassy in Washington yesterday confirmed that the US had been notified a number of times that its reconaissance aircraft would risk being fired on if they flew over Syrian-occupied territory.

Premier told to stay on

Beirut (Reuter) – The Lebanese prime minister, Mr Chaffic Wazzan, asked President Gemayel yesterday to accept his resignation as shells crashed into residential parts of east Beirut, but he was persuaded to stay on.

But the Prime Minister, who wants to hand over to a government of national unity, said he would continue in office until Mr Gemayel completes a new round of national consultations.

The shelling in east Beirut followed an outbreak of fighting in the mountains between the Lebanese Army and Druze Muslim militias.

Mandate for British peace force

The conditions under which a British contingent would participate in the multinational peacekeeping force in Lebanon were agreed in an exchange of notes between the British and Lebanese governments on January 31, 1983.

A letter written by Mr Elie Salem, the Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Lebanon, to the British Government said:–

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to refer to the discussions which have taken place between representatives of our two governments concerning the establishment of a temporary Multinational Force (MNF) in the Beirut area. The Mandate of the MNF is to provide an interposition force at agreed locations and thereby provide a multi-national presence to assist the Lebanese Government and the Lebanese Armed Forces (LAF) in the Beirut area. This presence will facilitate the restoration of Lebanese Government sovereignty and authority over the Beirut area, and thereby further efforts of my Government to assure the safety of persons in the area. The MNF may undertake other functions only by mutual agreement among government. The MNF is currently composed of contingents of the armed forces of France, Italy and the United States of America.

In the foregoing context, I have the honour to propose that the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland deploy a force of approximately 100 personnel to Beirut for a period of three months, subject to the following terms and conditions:–

(1) The British military force shall carry out such tasks as may be agreed between the United Kingdom and Lebanese Governments, consistent with the Mandate of the MNF:

(ii) Command authority over the British force will be exercised exclusively by the British Government through existing British doplomatic and military channels:

(iii) The LAF and MNF will form a liaison and co-ordination committee . . .

(iv) The British force will operate in close coordination with the Lebanese Armed Forces;

(v) In carrying out its duties, the British force will not engage in hostilities or other operations of a warlike nature. It may, however, exercise the right of self-defence:

(vi) Notwithstanding the time limits proposed above, the British Force will depart from Lebanon upon the request of the President of Lebanon or upon the decision of the British Government. Any proposal for renewal of the Mandate would be subject to consultation between the Government of the Lebanon and her Majesty's Government and the agreement of both parties:

(vii) The Government of Lebanon and the LAF will take all measures necessary to ensure the protection of the British force's personnel (to include securing assurances from all armed elements not now under the authority of the Lebanese Government that they will refrain from hostilities and not interfere with any activities of the MNF);

(viii) The British force will enjoy bot the degree of freedom and movement and the right to undertake those activities deemed necessary for the performance of its mission for the support of its personnel. Accordingly, the members of the British force shall enjoy the privileges and immunities accorded the technical and administrative staff of the British Embassy in Beirut, and shall be exempt from immigration and customs requirements, and restrictions on entering or departing from Lebanon. The appropriate British authorities may exercise jurisdiction over the British force in accordance with British service law. Personnel, property and equipment of the British force introduced into Lebanon shall be exempt from any form of tax, duty, charge or levy.

I have the further honour to propose, if the foregoing is acceptable to Your Excellency's Government, that Your Excellency's reply to that effect, together with this Note, shall constitute and Agreement between our two governments which shall come into force on the date of Your Excellency's reply.

Mr D.A. Roberts, British Ambassador in Beirut, said in a reply to Mr Salem:–

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to refer to Your Excellency's Note of January 31, 1983 requesting the deployment of a British force to the Beirut area . . .

I am pleased to inform you that the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland is prepared to deploy for the period of three months a force of approximately 100 personnel.

I have the further honour to inform Your Excellency that my Government accepts the terms and conditions the presence of the British force in the Beirut area as set forth in your Note, and that Your Excellency's Note and this reply accordingly constitute an Agreement between our two governments which shall come into force today.

Athens summit fiasco

French put blame on Britain but try to avoid recriminations

From Diana Geddes, Paris

If the British are surprised by France's apparent volte-face at Athens on the question of finding a long-term solution to Britain's contribution to the EEC budget, the French are equally surprised at Britain's reaction, believing that it is the British rather than the French who are primarily to blame for the summit's failure.

At the official level very little is being said, save to emphasize France's desire and determination to continue to work ror a satisfactory settlement, and every effort is being made to avoid recrimiations of any kind. Unlike Mrs Margaret Thatcher, President Mitterrand has made no public comment on Britain's attitude during the summit, despite his strong private feelings.

The only official statement on Athens after yesterday's Cabinet meeting was that President Mitterrand had expressed the hope that the present crisis would help concentrate minds, and that he did not believe in the "self-destruction" of Europe. "If one can dominate the crises, progress is possible" he said.

The resignation of M Andé Chandernagor as Minister for European Affairs, and his noination as President of the Cour des comptes, France's highest "court" for the control of public finances, was also announced at the Cabinet meeting. M Chandernagor's departure from the Government had been arranged for some time and had nothing to do with the success or failure of the Athens summit, however. He was considered a tough and comptent minister.

President Mitterrand had no need to apportion blame, however. The press has done that for him. There is a unanimous feeling here that it was Mrs Thatcher's intransigence and unwillingness to take one small step toward her Community partners that caused the impasse which led to the total breakdown of negotiations.

That view is supported in private by officials. They reject the notion that President Mitterrand's declaration that there could be no long-term agreement on Britain's EEC budget contribution represented a radical shift of position from that taken by French officials and ministers in the weeks before the summit.

M Mitterrand was simply restating the basic principle, always adopted by France, that Britain could not continue to operate outside the Treaty of Rome, they insist. France was not willing to countenance a reform of the treaty to suit Britain and it could no longer accept the present arrangements which in effect rewarded those countries which did not respect the Community preference and continued to import goods from outside the EEC.

M Claude Cheysson, the Foreign Minister, announced last night that agreement had been reached in bilateral talks with the West Germans at Athens to phase out within a specified period the Monetary Compensation Amounts (MCA's) on agricultural goods which act as a tax on exports for a country with a weak currency such as France, and a subsidy on imports for a country with a strong currency, such as West Germany.

There is a 10 per cent difference between France and West Germany at present. The abolition of the MCA's has been one of the French farmers' chief demands.

M Chandernagor: Tough and competent minister

Get-tough Commission tries to regain control

From Ian Murray, Brussels

The European Commission is to attmept to turn the clock back to the days when it had much more power in the Community. At the same time it is preparing to impose tough controls on the Community budget for the next year in an attempt to spin the money out.

After the total failure of the Athens summit to decide on essential reforms, the 14-member Commission held a crisis meeting in Brussels yesterday and agreed they had to assert their authority in the manner envisaged by the founding fathers.

The Commision believes essentially that the 10 leaders had too many dossiers in Athens to consider. This was directly due to the growing practice of allowing different countries to put forward rival propositions.

In deciding to try to go back to the good old days when it alone made proposals, the Commission is making a tacit admission that it let the preparations for the summit – a meeting not authorized by the rules – run out of control.

The inexperienced Greek presidency tried a new style of summit, which did not work as it often led to as many points of view as ministers round the table.

Mr Gaston Thorn, the Commission President, complained loudly but in vain. Now the Commission hopes to ma[illegible] its voice heard again.

President Mitterrand who takes over the presidency for s[illegible] months in the New Year, la[illegible] great stress in Athens on the vital importance of running the community rigidly according to the principles laid down in the Treaty of Rome.

So it is probable that he will do away with the unorthodox special council idea and concentrate on reaching agreements on the basis of Commission proposals argued out between ministers in regular council sessions.

● BONN: Chancellor Helmut Kohl told the West German Parliament yesterday he did not hide his disappointment at the failure of the Athens summ[illegible] but he was not prepared to apportion blame (Michael Binyon writes).

West Germany would do its best to ensure that the next council meeting was better able to fulfil its task, and Bonn would hold a series of bilateral meetings with its community partners.

The Chancellor said he hoped the crisis would lead to a change in thinking

● MADRID: In spite of the Athens debacle, both the Spanish and Portuguese Governments have reasserted their wish to join the EEC (Richard Wigg writes).

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Woman MP fails to get Cabinet job

From Alan McGregor
Geneva

Mrs Lilian Uchtenhagen, the Socialist Party candidate, yesterday failed to become Switzerland's first woman cabinet minister. In a combined session of the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament, she received 96 votes against 124 for the party's second choice, Mr Otto Stich.

According to opinion polls, 67 per cent of the population supported the idea of a woman in the seven-member Federal Cabinet. There are 24 women in Parliament.

"It is obviously difficult to find a woman who pleases." Mrs Uchtenhagen said. "But perhaps I have opened the way for a woman minister." Her Zurich party headquarters described the majority of MPs as misogynists.

US weighs up Managua overtures

From Mohsin Ali
Washington

The United States is ready to intensify its diplomatic efforts to test fully the sincerity of the leftist Nicaraguan Government's promise to hold elections in 1985 and to grant an amnesty to most of the rebels fighting it.

The State Department spokesman here said caution was necessary in interpreting the current peace signals from Nicaragua. "We don't know whether the signals represent a real willingness to deal with the substantive issues. The test is going to come in the actual negotiating process."

Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, on Monday welcomed the Nicaraguan Government's recent statements but made clear he was waiting for "reality to be put behind the rhetoric".

● TEGUCIGALPA: Nicaraguan rebel leaders rejected the offer of amnesty to Nicaraguans who had left the country since 1979 (NYT reports).

The amnesty decree was issued two days ago, and a Nicaraguan Government spokesman said that rebel leaders, among whom Señor Calero was mentioned specifically, were not eligible.

China accuses superpowers of being difficult

Peking (Reuter) – China yesterday said talks on normalizing relations with the Soviet Union had not made any headway and its links with the US had been disturbed by the Taiwan issue.

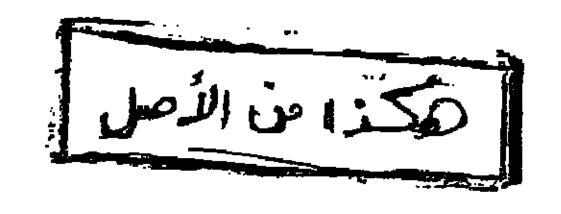
Mr Wu Xueqian, the Foreign Minister, made a major policy statement to the National People's Congress (NPC) standing committee, according to the New China news agency.

He said China's foreign policy was marked by difficulties with the two superpowers.

Normalization of relations with the Soviet Union were an important aspect of China's foreign policy, but talks this year had not made any headway because Moscow had avoided discussing three main obstacles to improved ties on the excuse of "not impairing the interests of a third country".

China has said relations can improve only if the Soviet Union withdraws its troops from Afghanistan, stops supporting Vietnam's occupation of Cambodia and reduces its troops and missiles along the Chinese border.

Intervention hint, page 8



Argentine air threat to Falklands aims to run up Britain's bill

From Douglas Tweedale
Buenos Aires

The outgoing head of Argentina's Air Force, Brigadier Augusto Hughes, has vowed that Argentine planes will test Britain's defences on the Falkland Islands and harass them to make the defence more expensive for Mrs Thatcher.

"The Air Force will be present in our sovereign airspace, testing and probing the enemy's defence capabilities to wear him down and make his defence more costly," the commander said.

Brigadier Hughes, who resigned his command on Tuesday in preparation for the transfer of power to the elected civilian government, said in a farewell speech that "the more effective our presence is, the more it will cost the enemy to maintain his forces."

He added that it would be difficult for Britain to continue "providing dollars (for the defence of the islands), especially since those colonies do not produce any dividends.

The Air Force has traditionally been the most nationalistic of Argentina's armed forces, and it is known that many officers still harbour strong feelings because of the heavy losses suffered by air crews during the war with Britain.


Señor Alfonsin: Polishing up his first speech

Brigadier Hughes also said that the Air Force proposed that British capital frozen here during the war should not be released and that British companies not be allowed to take profits out of the country.

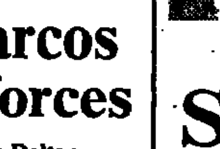
Meanwhile, the Argentine Congress formally proclaimed Señor Raul Alfonsin as the next President of Argentina, just four days before he is to take office as the country's first civilian ruler in nearly eight years.

In a brief meeting postponed from Monday, the joint houses of Congress confirmed the results of the elections last October which gave Señor Alfonsin the victory, and officially named him President.

Señor Alfonsin is to be sworn in on Saturday in a ceremony that will be attended by a number of European and Latin American heads of state, including Spain's Señor Felipe Gonzalez. The US is to be represented by a delegation led by Vice-President George Bush.

The President-elect was putting the finishing touches yesterday on a speech he is to deliver to Congress before being sworn in, while his advisers prepared a package of emergency measures they will propose immediately after Señor Alfonsñ takes power.

Those measures are believed to include sanctions against military officers for human rights abuses in recent years, economic measures aimed at reducing Argentina's inflation rates of more than 400 per cent, and a plan to reform the structure of the armed forces.




Question time: Mr Schultz (right) with Herr Genscher at his press conference

The Islamic summit

Delegates ignore plight of Biharis

From Michael Hamlyn, Dhaka

Just 10 minutes by rickshaw from the concrete architectural caprice housing the Islamic foreign ministers' conference here lies the teeming human antheap where the stranded Biharis dwell.

While the delegates utter resounding speeches about Muslim brotherhood these Muslims, these victims of inter-Muslim strife and sufferers from Muslim neglect, are unable even to contact the visitors to Dhaka because of the wall of security surrounding them.

Some 250,000 Biharis, non-Bengali Pakistanis stranded here after the war in 1971, live in camps like Geneva Camp, Mohammadpur, close to the centre of Dhaka. In huts made of palm thatch, 8ft by 6ft, families of five live in a warehouse, dark in the absence of natural windows, smoky with cooking fires and heaving with humanity. Young families, elderly widows, old men and their orphaned grandchildren live in pens.

In summer the heat is intense, the flies appalling, the smells unimaginable. In the monsoon nothing dries, the roofs pour with water, the paths turn to swamps. "For the past 12 years," say their leaders, "we have been living amidst hunger, malnutrition, disease, insecurity and filth. A whole generation of children is being slowly wasted away, without education or proper upbringing."

The Biharis – the majority do come from Bihar, but many hail from Bombay, or Madras, or many other parts of India – were mainly railway employees who were given the chance of opting for Pakistan, or India by the departing British Administration in 1947. They chose Pakistan, and rather than risk the bloody riots of Punjab, they opted for East Bengal.

At the time of the Bangladesh war, they supported t... Pakistan Army in its ... pression of the freedom mo... ment, and as such earned ... deep resentment of the Beng... lis.

After the war their asse... were frozen, many of them los... their jobs. Some 600,000 ask... to go to the western wing, ... take up their lives again.

But Pakistan did not wa... them. They had never lived in what was left of Pakistan. Bangladesh did not want them. India had no interest in taking them. So they were herded into camps and left to the Red Cross to look after.

They have been there ever since. Those who can make a living by casual labour, by pulling rickshaws, shining shoes or begging. The rest live on the allowance of wheat given by the Government to sustain them. Their pensions have stopped, their insurance schemes ended.

The Bangladesh Government recognizes no obligation to honour their contracts.

Cautious Ozal pledges to axe ministries

From Rasit Gurdilek, Ankara

Military rule ended in Turkey yesterday when President Kenan Evren called on Mr Turgut Ozal, last month's general election winner, to form a government.

General Evren said ho hoped that "now that the faults of Turkey's former democratic system are corrected and democracy is based on firmer foundations, there will be no further breakdowns".

Mr Ozal thanked the President for saving the country from certain disaster, pledging every effort on the part of his government to consolidate the successes attained.

Mr Ozal admitted his five-year term in power would not be easy because of the problems confronting the country, for which he invoked "the help of God". Improving the lot of the "central column" (his description of the middle class) would be a priority.

The former chief of the economy who was swept to power on a ticket of liberal economic policies and a hard drive against inflation, said he would reduce the number of ministries to streamline the bureaucracy.

He has also promised to eliminate the influence of the state on the economy and to restore the economic stabilization programme, which he had masterminded, to its original ruthlessness.

● ISTANBUL: The newspaper, *Hurriyet* reappeared on news-staids yesterday after martial-law authorities lifted a week-long ban on publication of the largest circulation daily.

Publication was allegedly suspended because the paper printed an obituary, which praised the late Ismail Bilen, the former secretary-general of the outlawed Turkish Communist Party.

Opposition to Marcos joins forces

From Keith Dalton
Manila

Philippine opposition groups yesterday announced plans to hold a national people's congress next month to elect an "alternative government" of 15 sectoral leaders who would be willing to hold reconciliation talks with President Ferdinand Marcos.

The formation of the multi-sectoral congress was accompanied by a warning from the organizers that it was the last attempt to avert further radicalization of the Filipino people.

The chairman of the congress, Mr Agapito Aquino, brother of the murdered opposition leader, Benigno Aquino, said the principle aim was to debunk claims that the opposition lacked a leader of the calibre of Mr Marcos.

Shultz eager to meet Gromyko

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

Mr George Shultz, the American Secretary of State, said yesterday he was "more than ready" to meet Mr Andrei Gromyko, his Soviet opposite number, at the opening of the European disarmament conference in Stockholm on January 17.

He told a press conference at the end of his brief round of talks with government and opposition leaders here that he expected to attend the conference, which he described as important, as there was strong support among the Western Allies for their foreign ministers to be present at the opening.

Mr Shultz has not turned into an angry confrontation over the shooting down of the Korean airliner.

However, among the European allies, West Germany in particular has been pressing Washington for a resumption of a high-level dialogue. On the eve of Mr Shultz's arrival Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the Foreign Minister, called on the West to take the initiative in improving East-West relations.

Mr Shultz said the US and West Germany had no differences on Nato strategy

In his meeting with Chancellor Helmut Kohl, Mr Shultz also discussed Lebanon, where, he said, the situation was "troublesome American forces ther would continue to defend themselves against attacks. He was convinced the Israelis would withdraw from Lebanon and the task now was to persuade the Syrians to do as well.

● LONDON: Whitehall sources confirmed last night that Mrs Thatcher had replied to the letter from President Andropov in which the Soviet leader made one last appeal to halt the deployment of American missiles in Britain (Henry Stanhope writes).

The Russian initiative involved a series of such letters to West European leaders, in which threats and cajolery were used in an attempt to persuade them to change their minds.

Neither Downing Street nor the Foreign Office would discuss the contents of Mrs Thatcher's reply, but it is understood to have thrown the ball back into the Russian court with a demand that the East rather than the West should show more flexibility in any future arms talks.

Iran renews threat to shut Hormuz

From Our Own Correspondent, Dhaka

Dr Ali Akbar Velayati, the Iranian Foreign Minister, minced no words in telling the Islamic conference here yesterday that Iran would not hesitate to close the Strait of Hormuz if its interests in the Gulf were threatened.

Dr Velayati, bearded and wearing no tie, told the meeting of Islamic foreign ministers, which includes the Gulf States, Kuwait and Qatar as well as Iraq: "If we are ever deprived of our inalienable and legitimate rights then we reserve the right to reconsider our undertaking (to keep the Gulf open). In that case the Persian Gulf region will be secure for nobody, and we will not hesitate in closing down the Strait of Hormuz."

The Iranian Foreign Minister, flanked by two turbanned mullahs, made no reference to the goodwill mission, led by President Sekou Toure of Guinea, which was set up by the last Islamic summit. Every speech made to the conference so far has referred to the tragedy of the Iran-Iraq war.

The Iraqi delegate to the meeting, Mr Hamad Alwan, the Minister of State, told the conference that Iraq was perfectly prepared to accept the goodwill mission's plan.

● TEHRAN: Captain Buhrman Afzali, the former Iranian Navy Commander-in-Chief, admitted before a court here yesterday to spying for the Soviet Union.

Dawn raids on 70 right wingers' homes

Bonn bans neo-Nazis

From Michael Binyon
Bonn

After dawn raids throughout West Germany on the homes of 70 known neo-Nazis, Herr Friedrich Zimmerman, the Interior Minister banned the most active neo-Nazi organization and associated right-wing groups, which he said posed a danger to democracy.

In a carefully coordinated action, police in nine federal states searched the homes of leading members of the Action Front of National Socialists/National Activists. No arrests were made but police took away membership cards, letters, propaganda material, Nazi emblems and swastikas.

The Action Front is estimated to have 270 members, mainly young people, organized into 32 local "comradeships." It is led by Herr Michael Kühen a former soldier who was released last year after four years in a Hamburg prison for advocating racial hatred. Ten days ago he was arrested in Vienna for Nazi activities and expelled

Herr Zimmermann called the Front the most active of the neo-Nazi groups in the federal Republic, and said he would not stand idly by while it carried out anti-democratic actions. This year alone, neo-Nazis are accused of 52 acts of violence, including arson attacks, muggings, bodily harm and damage to property. The Interior Ministry said it kenw of 1,400 neo-Nazis altogether in the country, including 300 militants. The total has risen by 100 over last year.

Neo-Nazi violence has been directed mainly against foreigners, especially Turks, and the authorities have been concerned at the spread of right-wing extremism among football fans. Among the actions planned by the Action Front were gatherings in Munich to commemorate the sixtieth anniversary of Hitler's abortive 1923 putsch and the forty-fifth anniversary of Crystal Night, when Jewish shops were destroyed. The authorities moved to prevent the meetings.

Herr Zimmermann said Nazi ideas were repellent to the vast majority of Germans, but posed a constant challenge to democracy.

He accused the Action Front of trying to revive the National Socialist Party, of propagating the ideas in *Mein Kampf* and in Hitler's last political testament and of assuming an increasingly militaristic posture.

The Government has been disturbed by the way members of banned neo-Nazi parties have regrouped under new names. The Action Front includes members who once belonged to the now outlawed People's Socialist Movement of Germany and the Hoffmann Military Sports Group.

Among the affiliated right-wing groups included in yesterday's ban is one called Action for the Repatriation of Foreigners, which put up candidates at a state election in Hessen and was preparing to fight an election in Baden-Württemberg.



Herr Michael Kühnen heads the Action Front

Chun struggles to legitimize his rule

Scars of May, 1980 are still unhealed

In the first of two articles from Seoul, David Watts *reports on the firm hand with which the Government grips the people.*

As President Reagan peered across the Demilitarized Zone into North Korea last month and denounced the totalitarian Pyongyang Government, hundreds of people were in detention in South Korea for voicing their opinions of the Government of President Chun Doo Hwan.

The American President's visit brought an unaccustomed calm to the campuses of South Korea; and after his departure the battle was joined again, from Kwangju in the south-west to the capital.

Students denouncing President Chun and the US defied government squads to mount leaflet protests that would be ignored in most other countries outside the Eastern block.

The students are demanding release from the heavy hand of the Chun Government, a freer press and some form of democracy. Though their numbers are relatively small, the Government takes them seriously, and with good reason: every change of government since the Second World War has been preceded by student protests which eventually affected the rest of society.

It is thought that protests spreading from the south of the country were the immediate cause of the assassination of President Park Chung Hee by the Head of the Korean Central Intelligence Agency in 1979.

SOUTH KOREA
Part 1

Park, a dour authoritarian, tended to use his powers *ad hoc*. President Chun has institutionalized many of Park's measures, but never achieved even a modicum of his popularity.

The ruthless way in which he seized power, and the bloody May of 1980 in Kwangju, have never been forgotten by Koreans. That month the city's students turned out in mass protests, which were put down with such brutality that the rest of the city rose in support.

President Chun earned the sobriquet "The Butcher of Kwangju". Three years later the scars are still not healed and the President is still struggling to legitimize his rule.

For a period after the uprising there were strenuous efforts to give the regime a more humane face, but the heavy security and intelligence presence has continued.

The heavy-handed methods of President Chun, long on strength and short on technique, have done nothing to win him support where he needs it most, among the people of South Korea. The churches, which monitor government behaviour, say its methods have merely become more devious.

"The military," according to a foreigner, "feel no obligation to obey the law on any level. They're a totally independent entity. There is almost no area of human activity in which the Government has not taken complete control."



President Chun: He seems oblivious to criticism

Some of the hundreds who were removed during the President's "purification" programme after he took office have been given back their rights, but the majority, including about 400 politicians, have not.

Even the Rangoon bombing, which cost the country its four brightest ministers, brought no public sympathy for President Chun, who narrowly escaped death.

The President visited the families of the dead men, but Koreans resented the fact that he made no attempt to apologize to the country in the manner of a general who has lost his troops. He seemed more concerned with the threat to his own life

The bombing was the latest in a series of incidents which included the shooting down of the Korean airliner and a series of financial scandals.

In a Confucian society such disasters are often taken as signs that the ruler has lost the "mandate of Heaven" and is no longer fit to rule. President Chun's American visitor did not go as far as that, but there was no doubt of Washington's wish for a more democratic government.

Tomorrow: Diplomatic success

Peking hint on intervention

Peking (Reuter, AP) – British and Chinese negotiators met here yesterday for a fresh round of formal talks on Hongkong's future to the background of a warning that China might change its 1997 deadline and an announcement of a joint Anglo-Chinese agreement to build a nuclear power plant.

A Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman said that if no problems arose, China would stick to its plan to take Hongkong back in 1997. But "For instance, if there is some turmoil in Hongkong, we could consider changing our timetable over recovery of sovereignty," he told a press briefing. He did not say whether this meant China would step in earlier than 1997 or extend the deadline.

He said that Peking would announce its policies for the colony next September, whether Britain and China had reached agreement on its future or not.

The spokesman, Mr Qi Huaiyuan, denied that China was rushing to reach a formula for Hongkong's future. "By next year, two years of talks will have passed. This is not being in a hurry," he said.

He reassured Hongkong journalists that the colony would be allowed to retain its capitalist social and economic systems under Chinese rule.

The two-day meeting, the seventh since the two sides began detailed discussions in July, was not expected to produce any news of progress other than the usual guarded statement setting the date for the next round.

When negotiators reconvene, the British team will have a new leader. The ambassador to Peking, Sir Percy Cradock, retires later this month to take up the post of foreign policy adviser to Mrs Thatcher.

In his place, across the table from China's Deputy-Foreign Minister, Mr Yao Guang, will be the new ambassador, Mr Richard Evans.

Announcing the setting up of a joint venture company to build nuclear power plant near Hongkong, the official New China news agency reported that it had been agreed in fruitful talks between Britain's Department of Trade and Industry, and officials of the Chinese Ministry of Water Resources and Electric Power.

Letter from Moscow

Traumatic memory set in granite

It looks, judging by the artist's impression, like a vast furled-up flag swirling into the sky. Set in parkland on a hill above one of Moscow's main arterial roads, the red granite "Victory Monument" will dominate a memorial complex containing a "Museum of the Great Patriotic War", white marble pillars with the names of heroes etched in gold, military busts and "three-dimensional battle scenes".

When it is finished (work has already started), millions of visitors will come in coachloads from factories and schools to listen to guides and look at the exhibitions. Yet apart from the dwindling numbers of ex-soldiers and airmen, very few of the visitors will remember what the monument project commenorates – the Second World War.

Foreigners in Moscow are often struck by the way the war is still recalled as if it happened yesterday. Westerners, especially those under 40, tend to regard the war as ancient history, the subject matter of grainy newsreels and dusty tomes. It belongs to another age. For Russians it is a living memory.

Wartime memories are kept alive artificially by the regime: they dominate Soviet films and books, and you cannot seem to turn on the television without seeing a group of bemedalled veterans reliving their battles. The war provides the Kremlin with a convenient theme for reinforcing national unity and the need for strong defences at the expense of living standards. It also justifies the suppression of deviant views as traitorous or unpatriotic.

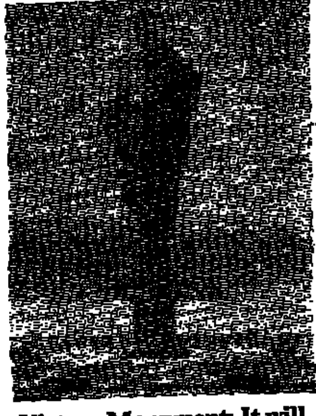
On the other hand, for many Russians the war against Hitler, which claimed 20 million Soviet lives (a figure much repeated), is a trauma which needs no artificial respiration to keep it alive.

The Young Pioneers who stand guard by the eternal flame in cities all over Russia are left in no doubt that their parents or grand parents endured terrible suffering which must not be repeated.

There are some Muscovites, though, who can be heard to mutter that the Victory Monument is a colossal waste of meagre public resources, and that the victims of fascism are already commemorated elsewhere in simpler but no less striking monuments. One of the most telling is the series of huge, rust-coloured crossed metal bars – like gigantic anti-tank barricades – by the side of the Moscow to Leningrad highway, not far from Moscow airport. They mark the furthest point reached by Nazi tanks in 1941, proving that Hitler's troops came so close to entering Moscow they could have caught a bus into town, had there been any buses running.

Still, literary-minded Russians point out that Tolstoy erected his monument to the 1812 war against Napoleon half a century after the war had ended, yet nobody thought *War and Peace* old hat. The comparison is apt, since the new Victory Monument is to rise on a hill above Kutuzovsky Prospekt, where there are already several reminders of the earlier Russian struggle against foreign invaders.

Known ironically as "Welcome Hill", it guards the approach to Moscow from Smolensk, Minsk and ultimately central Europe. It was on this hill that Napoleon stood and waited in vain for the Moscow city fathers to come to and greet him as a conquering hero. Down below, the great triumphal arch, moved here from the Leningrad highway, straddles Kutuzovsky Prospekt, whole General Kutuzov, the Russian hero of 1812, is commemorated in an equestrian statue and the circular panorama painting of the Battle of Borodino.



Victory Monument: It will dominate the complex

The coach parties will no doubt pause at these memorials to the patriotic war of 1812 before going up the hill to consider the Great Patriotic War of 1941 and the new Victory Monument. The Moscow city authorities recently announced that 31m roubles had been raised during voluntary work on a Saturday – the tradition known as a communist *subotnik* – and that the money would be spent on constructing the new memorial park complex.

The official announcement said the capital's workers had "decided" to donate the money to the Victory Monument, and though very few seem to have been consulted there were no voices raised in dissent.

Richard Owen

Shuttle returns today after record mission

From Trevor Fishlock
New York

The space shuttle Columbia returns to earth today after 10 busy days in orbit. The mission was extended an extra day to allow the crew more time for experiments and observations in the European Spacelab carried in Columbia's hold.

The six-man crew welcomed the extra day because failures in a computer, transmitting and photographic equipment, put them behind schedule.

The 10-day flight is a shuttle record, and by the time Columbia lands at Edwards Air Force Base in California at 4 pm GMT, it will have travelled 4.2m miles at a height of 155 miles above Earth.

By yesterday morning, 37 of the 70 experiments in Spacelab had been completed.

● MOSCOW: Soviet cosmonauts Vladimir Lyakhov and Alexander Alexandrov returned yesterday to their home in Star City, a space workers' settlement near Moscow, two weeks after the end of their 150-day mission aboard Salyut 7.

Science report, page 14

New year poll inevitable in Denmark

From Christopher Follett
Copenhagen

A New Year election is virtually inevitable in Denmark after the refusal of Opposition parties to vote for the draft 1984 budget presented by the 15-month-old Conservative-Liberal minority Government.

Mr Poul Schluter, Denmark's first Conservative Prime Minister this century, threatened yesterday to call an election unless he receives parliamentary backing for what he sees as the cornerstone of his administration's policy – an austerity budget containing £700m of public expenditure cuts.

These would reduce the budget deficit to less than £4,200m, the first drop in Denmark's budget deficit in a decade.

The Social Democrats, the largest Opposition group, demanded reductions in the planned savings and announced that they would vote against the budget for the first time since 1929, when the Bill comes before Parliament for a final reading on December 15.

Purpose of acquiring trading stock

Coates (Inspector of Taxes) v Arndale Properties Ltd
Reed (Inspector of Taxes) v Nova Securities Ltd

Before Lord Justice Lawton, Lord Justice Fox and Lord Justice Kerr

[Judgment delivered December 6]

For an asset to be acquired "as trading stock" within the meaning of section 274(1) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970 the purpose of the acquisition must be commercial in character.

The Court of Appeal so held when considering two appeals involving claims by taxpayer companies to avail themselves of provisions in the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970 and the Finance Act 1965 enabling groups of companies to convert a capital loss into a revenue loss for corporation tax purposes.

Where the sole purpose of the acquisition of an asset by the taxpayer company was to obtain a fiscal advantage for the group of companies of which it was a member, the Court of Appeal held that the asset was not acquired "as trading stock" and allowed an appeal by the Crown from the dismissal by Mr Justice Goulding (*The Times* March 25, 1982) of the Crown's appeal against a determination of the general commissioners to discharge an assessment to corporation tax on Arndale Properties Ltd in a sum of £28,072 for the year ending March 31, 1974.

The court (Lord Justice Lawton dissenting) dismissed the Crown's appeal from the decision of Mr Justice Walton (*The Times* August 6, 1982) who upheld a determination of the general commissioners to discharge an assessment to corporation tax on Nova Securities Ltd for its accounting period to December 1973.

Leave to appeal to the House of Lords was granted in both cases.

Mr Jonathan Parker, QC and Mr John Mummery for the Crown in the first appeal; Mr Andrew Park, QC and Mr Michael Flesch, QC for Arndale Properties Ltd; Mr J. E. Holroyd Pearce, QC and Mr Peter Goldsmith for the Crown in the second appeal; Mr C. N. Beattie, QC and Mr Christopher Sokol for Nova Securities Ltd.

LORD JUSTICE LAWTON said that in each appeal the principal issue was whether the company taxpayer, being a member of a group of companies, had acquired "an asset as trading stock" within the meaning of section 274(1) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970. If they had, they could bring into account as trading losses capital losses which had been sustained by the member of the group from whom they had acquired the assets.

In both cases the asset acquired was of the kind in which the taxpayer company traded. But that did not mean that it had been acquired "as trading stock". It must have been acquired for the purpose of being used in the course of trade.

In his Lordship's judgment, if the acquisition of an asset lacked a commercial character it could not be said to have been acquired as trading stock: but if it had that character the reason why the acquisition was made, in the absence of other factors, ought not to deprive it of that character.

Whether a transaction had a commercial character was a question of mixed fact and law. It was a question of law what the words "acquires an asset as trading stock" in section 274(1) meant and a question of fact whether the transaction in question came within that meaning.

If the words connoted a transaction having a commercial character and, on the facts found, the commissioners could reasonably have adjudged that it had such character, they could not be said to have made a determination which was onerous in law and their determination could not be set aside.

In the first appeal, the taxpayer was one of a number of wholly owned subsidiaries within the Town and City group and dealt in land. Another subsidiary, Sovereign Property Investments (Newport) Ltd (SPI) had spent £5,313,822 on a property development scheme at Newport which had a market value of only £3,100,000.

On March 30, 1973, SPI transferred the property to the taxpayer for a consideration shown by book entries as £3,090,000. By another assignment on the same day the taxpayer transferred the property to a third subsidiary Arndale Property Trust Ltd (Arndale), an investment company, for £3,100,000.

As the two assignments had been made between members of a group of companies, section 273(1) of the 1970 Act applied so that the transfer was deemed to have produced neither a gain nor a loss to SPI and the taxpayer was deemed to have acquired the property at a price of £5,313,822.

The property was not part of SPI's trading stock. It was one of its capital assets. Land and buildings, however, were assets with which the taxpayer traded.

If it did acquire the property as trading stock and section 274(1) applied, under paragraph 1 of Schedule 7 to the Finance Act 1965, the taxpayer's appropriation to its trading stock would be made at the property's market value of £3,100,000, and the difference of £2,213,822 between that value and the deemed consideration under section 273(1) could be treated as a trading loss following an election under paragraph 1(3) which was made in December 1975.

The commissioners decided that the taxpayer had acquired the property "as trading stock", even though those responsible for overall group policy had decided that the property should be sold to the taxpayer and immediately resold to Arndale solely in order that the group should obtain a fiscal advantage in the form of tax relief for the large and genuine loss which SPI had suffered.

In his Lordship's judgment, the commissioners could not have directed themselves properly as to the relevant law. They should have looked at the transaction as a whole and should not have confined themselves to the legal effect of the two assignments.

The transactions did not bear the badges of trade. Within the group there was no commercial reason why SPI should not have assigned directly to Arndale. No cash passed. The profit to the taxpayer of £10,000 could not have been much of an incentive because on its face no provision had been made for profit.

The assignment through the taxpayer could only have been made for the purpose of getting a fiscal benefit. The property could not have been acquired "as trading stock". When deciding otherwise the commissioners made a determination which was erroneous in point of law.

The judge had considered himself bound to uphold the determination because of *Griffiths v J. P. Harrison (Watford) Ltd* ([1963] AC 1). Assuming, as one must, that the judgment in that case as to the construction of section 341(1) of the Income Tax Act 1952 was binding on the court, his Lordship distinguished the present appeal on the ground that it was concerned with section 274(1) of the 1970 Act.

In the second appeal, the taxpayer company bought and sold quoted securities in a small way over a number of years. In March 1973 the whole of its issue share capital was acquired by a company from the Littlewoods group.

The acquiring company had previously undertaken a commercial venture in Western Germany through a subsidiary, Medaillon Mode GmbH, which had been financially disastrous. Its only chance of recouping any losses lay in the value of Medaillon's premises in Offenbach.

In August 1973 the Littlewoods company offered to sell to the taxpayer for £30,000 the whole of the registered share capital of Medaillon, debts owing to it by Medaillon and debts owing by a Swiss subsidiary. The taxpayer accepted that offer.

For the purposes of corporation tax those debts and shares had been acquired by the Littlewoods company at a cost of £3,936,765. As a consequence of the application to the transaction of section 273 of the 1970 Act the taxpayer was deemed to have acquired them for that sum, and the taxpayer claimed to have incurred a trading loss for tax purposes of £3,905,950.

The registered share capital of Medaillon had not been sold but £35,447 had been received by the taxpayer in part payment of the debts on the sale of the Offenbach premises.

In his Lordship's judgment, the only reasonable inference from the facts was that the sale of the debts and shares would never have come about if those who had planned it had not seen fiscal advantages.

A deal of the instant kind did have a commercial character and was consistent with the acquisition of assets as trading stock. However, the transaction must not be looked at in isolation.

The commissioners had to have regard to its inception, to the arrangements made initially and to the manner of implementation. Had the commissioners viewed the transaction as a whole they could not reasonably have come to the conclusion that the taxpayer had acquired the debts and shares as trading stock.

LORD JUSTICE FOX, concurring on the first appeal, said that the words "trading stock" must imply an acquisistion for a trading purpose and to constitute a trading purpose the purpose must be commercial in character.

In the second appeal, it could not be inferred from the admitted facts that the sole or indeed the principal purpose of the acquisition by the taxpayer was fiscal.

It must be legitimate for a company when deciding when to acquire property "as trading stock" to take into account tax benefits which might follow though the acquisition itself must be for trading and not merely fiscal purposes.

The board of the taxpayer company met to consider Littlewoods' offer and took note that, on the information available, £55,000 would be recovered on the debts. There was no evidence as to the extent to which the board was influenced by fiscal considerations.

It was a perfectly possible view of the facts that the property was acquired by the taxpayer as trading stock. Looking at the whole matter it was impossible to say that no tribunal properly instructed could reasonably have concluded as did the commissioners.

LORD JUSTICE KERR delivered a judgment concurring with Lord Justice Lawton and Lord Justice Fox on the first appeal and with Lord Justice Fox on the second appeal.

Solicitors: Solicitor, Inland Revenue; Speechly Bircham; Solicitor, Inland Revenue; Allen & Overy.

Statutory or common-law conspiracy

Regina v Ayres

Before Lord Justice O'Connor, Mr Justice Kilner Brown and Mr Justice Popplewell

[Judgment delivered December 2]

The question whether conspiracy to defraud at common law could only be charged where the evidence did not support any substantive statutory conspiracy, having regard to sections 1 and 5 of the Criminal Law Act 1977, as amended, was certified as involving a point of law of general public importance. Leave to appeal to the House of Lords was refused.

The Court of Appeal dismissed an appeal by David Edward Ayres against his conviction on October 15, 1982 at Reading Crown Court (Judge Hilliard) of conspiracy to defraud. He was sentenced to eight months' imprisonment.

The Criminal Law Act 1977 provides by section 1: "(1) Subject to the following provisions of this part of this Act, if a person agrees with any other person or persons that a course of conduct shall be pursued which will necessarily amount to or involve the commission of any offence or offences by one or more of the parties to the agreement if the agreement is carried out in accordance with their intentions, he is guilty of conspiracy to commit the offence or offences in question."

Section 5 provides: "(1) Subject to the folowing provisions of this section, the offence of conspiracy at common law is hereby abolished.

"(2) Subsection (1) above shall not affect the offence of conspiracy at common law so far as relates to conspiracy to defraud, and section 1 above shall not apply in any case where the agreement in question amounts to a conspiracy to defraud at common law . . .".

Mr Christopher Wilson-Smith and Mr Robin Tolson for the appellant; Mr Julian Baughan and Mr J. M. D. Chapple for the Crown.

MR JUSTICE KILNER BROWN, delivering the judgment of the court, said that the substantive fraud alleged was an intention to obtain money from an insurance company by a false representation that a lorry load of scallops had been stolen while in transit, which would be contrary to section 15 of the Theft Act 1968.

It had been submitted that the indictment should have been laid as a conspiracy to obtain property by deception contrary to section 1(1) of the 1977 Act, and not as a conspiracy to defraud contrary to common law.

The application of sections 1(1) and 5(1) and (2) had given rise to much discussion, to difference of opinion between divisions of the Court of Appeal and uncertainty in courts of first instance. The wording of section 5(1) and (2) appeared in effect to preserve the whole range of common law conspiracy to defraud, which included a wide variety of offences which were created and defined by statute and were no longer common-law offences.

In *R v Quinn* ((1978) Crim L R 750) Mr Justice Drake ruled that a conspiracy to steal should be charged at common law. In *R v Walters* ((1979) 69 Cr App R 115) Lord Widgery, Lord Chief Justice held that it was proper to regard a conspiracy to steal as something within a conspiracy to defraud, and that an indictment was not rendered invalid merely because it charged conspiracy to defraud if truly the offence was conspiracy to steal.

Then in *R v Duncalf* ([1979] 1 WLR 918) the Court of Appeal held, disapproving *Quinn*, that upon the true construction of section 5(2) the only common-law offence that was preserved was a conspiracy to defraud *simpliciter*, and that where the obvious purpose of the conspiracy was to steal the Act required it to be charged as such contrary to section 1.

As a result of the guidence given the practice had developed of framing indictments and conspiracies to rob and conspiracies to steal and so forth rather than alleging a conspiracy to defraud, and alleging a conspiracy to defraud in those cases where fraud was the essence of the offence.

The convenience of that practice was demonstrated by the facts of the instant case. The difficulty was that the draughtsman plainly envisaged that a conspiracy to defraud might also be a conspiracy as defined by section 1(1), and so provided in section 5(2).

Their Lordships doubted whether the decisions in *Duncalf* and *Walters* could stand together. On the clear wording of section 5(2) they were content to be bound by the decision in *Walters* and to hold that the appellant was properly charged with conspiracy to defraud.

The submission that the indictment was defective was rejected. Their Lordships, however, wished to remind those who persisted in raising questions on the form of the indictment that the arguments were of little practical importance. Even if an indictment was incorrectly framed, it was defective only and did not render the trial a nullity: see *R v Molyneux* ((1980) 72 Cr App R 111) and *R v McLaughlin* ((1982) 76 Cr App R 42).

Solicitors: Wolferstans, Plymouth; Mr C. S. Hoad, Kidlington.

Claiming for interest

Alsabah Maritime Services Company Ltd v Philippine International Shipping Corporation

Although a contracting party could in some circumstances be liable in special damages for interest charges which another party had incurred by reason of the first party's default in paying sums due under the contract, such damages were not recoverable where the contract expressly provided that further charges would not arise under it unless agreed between the parties, and where the charging of interest was illegal in the jurisdiction in which the contract sum should have been paid.

Mr Justice Neill so stated in the Commercial Court of the Queen's Bench Division on November 30, giving judgment for the plaintiff company for sums due under a contract which it had made with the defendant corporation.

Uncorroborated evidence of mental patients

Regina v Bagshaw and Others

Before Lord Justice O'Connor, Mr Justice Kilner Brown and Mr Justice Popplewell

[Judgment delivered December 2]

The Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) certified that a point of law of general public importance was involved in the question whether in a case where the evidence for the Crown was solely that of a witness who was not in one of the accepted categories of suspect witnesses, but who by reason of his particular mental condition and criminal convictions fulfilled the same criteria, the judge must warn the jury that it was dangerous to convict on his uncorroborated evidence. Leave to appeal to the House of Lords was refused.

The Court gave reasons for allowing, on November 10, the appeals of Robert Keith Bagshaw, Brian Holmes and Alan John Starkey, who were convicted on May 11, 1982 at Nottingham Crown Court (Judge Hopkin and a jury) of ill-treating patients contrary to section 126 of the Mental Health Act 1959.

Mr J. B. Mortimer, QC and Mr Aidan S. Marron for the appellants; Mr Jeremy Roberts, QC and Mr Richard Dixon for the Crown.

MR JUSTICE O'CONNOR said that patients under the 1959 Act were not a category like accomplices or complainants in sexual cases, nor would their Lordships wish to make them into an additional category. Patients detained in a special hospital after conviction for an offence or offences, even if they were not a category, might well fulfil to a very high degree the criteria which justified the requirement of the full warning in respect of witnesses within accepted categories.

If seemed to their Lordships that in such cases nothing short of the full warning that it was dangerous to convict on the uncorroborated evidence of the witnesses would suffice.

The trial judge's summing up was a masterpiece of lucidity and fairness; he gave an impeccable direction to the jury that they should treat the evidence of the complainants with the greatest caution, but their Lordships were in no doubt that the three complainants in the present cases were shown to be persons in respect of whom the full warning was essential. The convictions were unsafe and should be quashed.

Solicitor: Tracey Barlow Furniss & Co, Worksop; Director of Public Prosecutions.

Law Society report must be disclosed

Buckley v The Law Society

Before Lord Justice Cumming-Bruce and Lord Justice Fox

[Judgment delivered December 2]

A "handround" given by Law Society staff to a professional purposes committee meeting where it was then decided that there was reason to suspect dishonesty in a solicitor was a material document requiring discovery.

The Court of Appeal dismissed an appeal by the Law Society against the inclusion on May 17, 1983 of the handround in an order for discovery of documents relating to an intervention by them under paragraph 6(4) of Schedule 1 to the Solicitors Act 1974 against Mr C R Buckley: see *The Times* May 14, 1983.

Mr Ian Kennedy, QC and Mr John P. Whittaker for the Law Society; Mr John G. Wilmers, QC and Mr Ian McCulloch for Mr Buckley.

LORD JUSTICE FOX said that the court was primarily concerned with a report from the Law Society professional purposes staff to the professional purposes committee at which the resolution to intervene was passed.

The Law Society argued that the question now was not whether they had reason to suspect dishonesty but whether it would be safe for the court to conclude that they should withdraw their intervention, and the handround was not relevant to that issue; it was not a case of judicial review as to whether they had directed themselves properly in deciding whether to pass the resolution.

His Lordship could not accept that argument. The order for discovery in terms related to the position at the date when the Law Society decided they had reason to suspect dishonesty. The handround must by its very nature show grounds indicating dishonesty or the absence of it, as it appeared to the officers of the society at that time. Whether primary fact or analysis of facts, it was primary material before the committee.

Lord Justice Cumming-Bruce agreed.

Solicitors: Hempsons; Edwin Coe & Calder Woods.

The unlikely civil servant

The Times Profile
Lord Carrington

Britain's two most remarkable foreign secretaries since the war have come from opposite extremes of the social spectrum. Yet there are revealing similarities between them, in content if not in form. Neither Ernest Bevin nor Lord Carrington – due to be named tomorrow as the next Secretary-General of Nato – went to university, though both were men of powerful, natural and energetic intelligence. Both had extensive experience of the world outside politics; and neither mixed ideology with foreign affairs. The parallel should not be strained but it highlights the cross-party pragmatism that has, until very recently, characterized the British approach to foreign policy. In Carrington's case, this took the form of a coruscating common sense which was the root of his enormous popularity with the British public.

Most biographies linger more on the style than the substance of the man: the overtones of Whiggery, Waugh and Wodehouse; Eton, the Guards, the manor house and the acres in Buckinghamshire; and the apparent effortlessness of everything, whether the rise to power, the humour or the charm.

There is a shade of affectionate, national self-caricature in this emphasis on the antique. But it obscures the fact that Lord Carrington is a very serious, modern man. The image of the languid, aristocratic amateur is fundamentally faulty. He has a considerable disdain for the more lethargic of his caste, and his sympathy with the cause of the reform of the House of Lords (he was once its leader) is well attested.

His resignation is usually discussed in old-fashioned terms of "honour". There was certainly a strong element of this. But he himself admits that the practical difficulty of entering a probable war with a controversial foreign secretary under unremitting attack from parts of the press was also very much on his mind.

Since then he has fretted not so much at the indignity of what happened (though he has never enjoyed anything less) as at his relative inactivity. He has enough to do to fill a long day: as chairman of GEC he travels a good deal, smoothing the way for big business from the Middle East to South-east Asia. He also takes his new job at the Victoria and Albert Museum very seriously, and has more time for his farm. But he feels the need to be stretched.

His activism in the public interest goes back to the time when he was elected as a county councillor in his native Buckinghamshire for three years after the war. His periods in office – at the ministries of Agriculture, Energy and Defence before the Foreign Office – have also been interspersed with active involvement in business and banking, and relentless travel.

At the Foreign Office, this busyness reached a peak. Initially, there was as much to learn as to do, especially about Europe. MCAs (the notoriously intricate system of Monetary Compensation Amounts paid under the agricultural policy) and the Green Pound had not existed during his earlier days in the ministry of Agriculture. Carrington is not a natural economist – though he is not a matchstick man either – and he had to swot up the whole subject at the same time as he was laying the diplomatic foundations of Lancaster House. His solution was to get up at five and do a couple of hours hard work on his box before breakfast.

The inner rigour could be seen in other ways. Behind the bonhomie and the banter, there is a sharp and even merciless critic. It came out in small ways. Each ambassador thought he was Carrington's favourite. Each had his weak point too, which Carrington spotted at first meeting. His almost obsessive politeness was another aspect of the same characteristic. All over the world he left a trail of startled motorcycle escorts who were obliged to tug off their massive gloves to shake hands with the visiting Foreign Secretary while his plane revved and his staff anguished over the lost time. But he was equally demanding in return: kept waiting for a meeting or an audience for more than a minute, he would begin to twitch and accuse the culprit, whatever his rank, of insulting behaviour.

The Foreign Office was the peak of Carrington's pre-Nato career; all he asked was to stay there. He had no grand strategy to implement – he hated "concepts" and would finger any thick, thoughtful-looking paper suspiciously and ask his private secretary whether it contained any. But he saw a lot to be done and set about it briskly. His industry, purposefulness and wit captivated his officials, who worked with him willingly, as a team.

By far the most urgent problem was Rhodesia. It is hard to remember now the extent to which the issue dominated British foreign policy at that point. Often as much as 50 per cent of the Foreign Secretary's time was devoted to the affairs of southern Africa. Just as Bevin, the trade unionist, was the right man at the right historical moment to secure a national consensus for the necessity of Nato; so Carrington was best placed in the House of Lords to take the hair-raising political risks of Lancaster House. The Rhodesian settlement was pushed through by a mixture of bluff, willpower and sheer diplomatic professionalism, with his friend Ian Gilmour keeping the anxious Commons involved.


Vincent Mentzel

Lord Carrington: a very serious, modern man

Carrington knew all along that he was on the high wire, and naturally resented the prodding in the press and the intrigues by some of his own party to dislodge him – just as he could never forgive Nyerere's attempts to wreck the conference. He still has no regrets at having stopped an unwinnable war in which 25,000 people, including many whites, had already died, and at having staged one of the most democratic elections ever likely to be seen in Africa. He is genuinely unable to understand the opponents of the settlement. He himself is a fierce opponent of the illusion of options – in this case letting the war go on, backing the fragile Bishop Muzorewa, or both.

He was equally persistent in the search for diplomatic solutions in Gibraltar, Belize, Hongkong and the Falklands. In this sense, he was very much in tune with the new Thatcher times, with their emphasis on the evils of complacency and inertia. Ever conscious of the danger of letting these sensitive situations fester, he once threw a fit when a national newspaper suggested that he should learn to "leave well alone". He was conscious too of the enormity of the problems Britain faced closer to the centre of her concerns – in Europe, the Middle East, East/West relations and the Atlantic relationship.

What had been an advantage over Rhodesia turned out to be a drawback in the Falklands. Stiff, formal and infrequent sessions with the select committee on Foreign Affairs and meetings with backbenchers could not substitute for direct involvement in the House of Commons. Maybe the crucial point in Carrington's career was his decision not to promote leaseback in the Falklands after the Commons said "no". His defence is the difficulty of doing so without signalling weakness to the Argentinians; and that it is all really hindsight anyway. It is the only real point on which the Franks Report sought to fault him.

Only after the Rhodesian incubus was lifted was there time to devote to the central issues. Here, his activism was balanced by an inbred scepticism: some of his officials would have preferred Britain to take a higher profile in the Middle East, for example. Carrington (who had a way of making them think he was taking their advice, but doing something rather different) worked hard to secure the Venice Declaration, and at follow-up contacts with individual Arab governments. But his short-term concern was not to pull off another diplomatic coup, but to contain the combustible uncertainties of the Middle East during the American electoral campaign, at a time when Carter's Camp David was manifestly failing; and to get what he saw as the simple, balanced principles of the declaration firmly established.

He has always been an unashamed believer in diplomacy. But he believes strongly in defence too. He never questioned the need for cruise or Trident, though he enjoyed stirring up waves in Whitehall by repeating at the drop of a brass hat his belief that Britain would eventually have to choose between a first class navy, army and air force.

He was unquestioning too about Europe. At the slightest manifestation of anti-Europeanism he would launch into a well-rehearsed, but perfectly sincere, speech about his post-war reflections as he "stood in the ruins of Cologne".

It is sometimes said that Carrington, as foreign secretary, travelled too much, and lost touch with political realities at home. Seen in a different perspective, this international activism had a broader purpose and effect. By flying the flag with such flair, he helped to reassure opinion abroad while some heavy domestic furniture was being moved around. By keeping Britain's end up, he helped the government's overall popularity at a time when there seemed little prospect of an economic Lancaster House.

The key relationship was, of course, with Mrs Thatcher. They saw each other far more often – almost daily – than is usual between prime minister and foreign secretary. There were, inevitably, difficulties. But there was real mutual respect as well, and any tensions were remarkably creative As a non-contender for the throne, Carrington used his political detachment to argue forcefully for what he thought was right. They brought out the best in each other: she helping to root him in stern principle; and he acting as a catalyst between the Prime Minister's instincts and intelligence.

There was never any rancour and much mutual solicitude. Once, late on a Saturday afternoon after a tense day on the Rhodesian tightrope, he arrived pale, drawn and lunchless at Number 10. The Prime Minister suddenly realized that he had not eaten, and offered to cook him scrambled eggs in her flat upstairs. The chemistry between them was sometimes volatile, but mostly highly effective.

The Prime Minister supported his Nato candidacy, though Carrington himself has hardly gone out of his way to solicit the job. His famous "megaphone diplomacy" speech at the International Institute of Strategic Studies last April (in fact he deliberately omitted these particular words, which he thought might be misunderstood at Number 10, from the spoken text but they were in the press release . . .) was hardly calculated to improve his chances of appointment in Washington's eyes.

Yet Carrington is a natural choice for Nato at a time when the effectiveness of defence through deterrence will become increasingly closely linked to the diplomacy of arms control. It is difficult to think of anyone better suited to "sell" Nato's strategy to the western public, and to reconcile transatlantic interests, after the bruising period of the Euro-missiles deployment, than a former British minister of both defence and foreign affairs with his reputation.

In a sense he is an unlikely international civil servant. Mrs Thatcher said on his resignation that he had been a "sturdy and bonny fighter for Britain". He will still be fighting for Britain, as well as for Nato in Brussels. His appointment will help to raise Britain's profile and prestige in the whole costly, complex area of security, arms control and East/West relations.

And there is a curious continuity in the fact that Carrington, the aristocrat, should be secretary-general of an organisation in the establishment of which his distinguished, proletarian predecessor as foreign secretary had such a big hand.

George Walden

The author, Conservative MP for Buckingham, was principal private secretary to Lord Carrington at the Foreign Office, 1979-81.

Nato's man in the middle

The Secretary-General of Nato, as the most senior official of the biggest and most powerful security alliance in the world, has immense prestige but, in reality, very little power.

He is an international civil servant appointed by the organization's highest body, the North Atlantic Council, which consists of the representative ministers from each member country. He becomes chairman of this council, the Defence Planning Committee, and the Nuclear Planning Group, in their meetings at ministerial level – normally twice a year – and in their regular and informal meetings at permanent representatives' level – normally twice a week. There he can exert considerable influence but all decisions are made by the delegates and, as the organization has no supranational character, they have to be unanimous.

It is from this apparent weakness that his power derives but it is that of a diplomat rather than that of a ruler. Where there are conflicting national interests and potential disagreements, he must recognise the main lines of possible consensus and move ministers or their representatives towards it by personal persuasion. He can do this alone or by seeking the support of one or more of the ministers; he can point out approach avenues, suggest compromises, inform and instruct – but he can never command.



Joseph Luns: an armour plated Rolls-Royce

There is no standard contract for a secretary-general. Matters such as salary, entertainment and travel expenses, house and car, are negotiated between Council and candidate. Mr Joseph Luns, the outgoing Secretary-General, has a tax-free salary comparable to that of the United Nations Secretary-General, a fully staffed house and is driven in a green, armour-plated Rolls-Royce.

So far the incumbent has set his own time limit: Mr Luns is in his thirteenth year. It is understood that the Council will now limit the next term to four years.

A new incumbent will himself decide the limitations he must impose on himself. Contracts for members of the international staff stipulate that they give their undivided attention to their task and they cannot, therefore, hold other posts. Membership of a board of directors of any commercial company would probably be incompatible with the appointment, let alone, in view of its defence equipment production side, that of GEC. Equally, he would not be able to take an active part in the politics of his own country. However, propagating the Nato doctrine has become one of the primary functions of the secretary-general, one which Mr Luns fulfilled untiringly.

His tasks are manifold, his problems vast. At a time when East-West relations are at their worst since the early 1950s, the Alliance is under considerable internal stress. The secretary-general inherits a watching brief on Greece and Turkey, will have to face a referendum on adherence in Spain, and sees a perennial tug of war between Europe and the United States. He will need great powers of persuasion and conciliation as well as penetrating vision to achieve even a measure of success.

Frederick Bonnart

LECH WALESA

The interview with Lech Walesa, carried on yesterday's Spectrum page, was the result of questions compiled by Western journalists based in Poland and put to Mr Walesa by two intermediaries: a Polish journalist who has not been allowed to work in his own country for two years and a Polish-speaking Western journalist, both of whom desired to remain anonymous.

moreover...
Miles Kington

Unsung hero of those noises off

People who do very unusual jobs indeed
17: *The MP who sits nearest to the microphone on the Commons and goes "Yah! Yah!"*

Whenever we hear a recording of the proceedings in the House of Commons, we can hear behind the speaker a chorus of reaction from MPs, ranging from a quiet rhubarb to a rabble riot. But no matter how loud the chorus one voice always seems closer than the others. It belongs to Quentin Huckleby, SDP-Labour member for Crossover South.

"Like all great Parliamentary customs, it started by accident," says Quentin, an affable self-employed conveyancer of about 45. "I just happened to be sitting nearest the mike one day during a particularly boring debate on the renaming of the North Sea, and I was passed a note by the Speaker. 'Please provide some reactions,' it said, 'or the radio audience will think there's no one here.' Well, I could see what he meant, so I started harrumphing and groaning a bit, as we normally would do if Mrs Thatcher was speaking.

"Anyway, the Speaker came up to me afterwards and said I was a great success and could I go on doing it in future debates, so I always have. What he liked especially, I think, was that he couldn't tell from the noises I was making whether I supported the speaker or not. Of course, as a Labour-SDP member I often don't know myself, so I suppose I have without realizing evolved some non-committal but impassioned noises. I now have a special seat near the mike."

Quentin Huckleby has not actually spoken in the house since winning his seat at the Election, but as he has grunted and groaned non-stop through every debate, he doesn't think he has to.

"People outside the Commons often think it's rude of me to interrupt and barrack speakers but they don't realize that the speakers love it. Mrs Thatcher raising her voice to soar over the rebellious crowd beneath her – well, she's be lost if she didn't have that hubbub to fight. She'd certainly sound pretty stupid if she were shouting in a complete silence. When there's not enough noise, she actually signals to me to start the protest going."

How does he get that distinctive "Yah-yah" noise that only MPs seem capable of?

"It's not really 'Yah-yah' if you listen closely. It's more like 'Hear hear' recorded at 45 rpm and then played back at 33 rpm. It's got overtones of approval and disapproval at the same time. The same with what the press calls cries of 'Oh! Oh! Oh!'. This is really 'Ho ho ho' slowed down and played back with more bass. And a touch of echo."

Wouldn't Mr Huckleby admit that the Parliamentary chorus is rather like a secondary school class barracking a weak teacher?

"Not at all. I'd say it was more like a primary school, played back at half the speed."

Isn't this all rather childish?

"Oh, definitely. That's why the public loves it. I know the critics say we sound like a pack of unruly passengers on a charabanc, but let's face it: that's what people identify with. Of course, as the prime mover I have to do a lot of rehearsing."

Rehearsing? How can you rehearse crowd reactions?

"Easily. Sometimes I practise as a drinker who's just been told it's closing time – lots of MPs are well away, so that's fitting. Sometimes as an England forward being sent off in the French match, sometimes as Cecil Parkinson being found out."

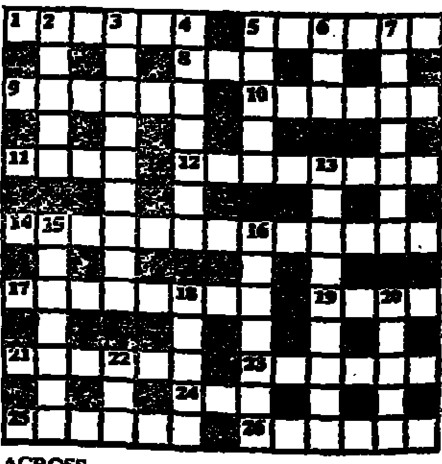
What would happen if he genuinely got angry about something being said in the Commons?

"Oh, we don't actually listen to what's being said, we just listen to the tone of the voice. I'm not sure what would happen if I found myself following the speeches. Drop off to sleep, I expect. The only time I got really angry was when I noticed Mrs Thatcher edging near the microphone during a Neil Kinnock explosion, and booing into it, rather like herself at half speed. Well, that's not her job, that's my job, and I rather told her off, I'm afraid."

Can he remember exactly what he said to her?

"It doesn't really matter, does it? During a Neil Kinnock explosion, all you can hear is Welsh spit flying into outer space."

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 218)



ACROSS
1 Palm fibre (6)
5 Interfere (6)
8 Contemptuous shout (3)
9 Negligent (6)
10 Depression (6)
11 Mess up (4)
12 Suspended state (8)
14 Indifferently (13)
17 News summary (8)
19 Immense (4)
21 Leaf main vein (6)
23 Insist upon (6)
24 Exclude (3)
25 Steeple (6)
26 Girl's governess (6)

DOWN
2 Amphitheatre (5)
3 Very alarming (9)
4 Refrain (7)
5 Castle mound (5)
6 Distinguished Service Order (1,1,1)
7 Dialectical (7)
13 Unscrupulously ambitious person (9)
15 Learned (7)
16 Pewter mug (7)
18 Brindled (5)
20 Sea nymph (5)
22 Arbitrator (3)

SOLUTION TO No 217
ACROSS: 1 Lunacy 4 Tirade 7 Omit 8 Kickback 9 Skillets 12 Sap 15 Twitch 16 Borage 17 Bag 19 Son of God 24 Jeroboam 25 Base 26 Stingy 27 Honest
DOWN: 1 Loot 2 No inkling 3 Yokel 4 Tacit 5 Robe 6 Dacha 10 Locus 11 Spoof 12 Sea voyage 13 Prey 14 Stab 18 Agent 20 Ology 21 Oomph 22 Gown 23 Rest

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هكذا من الأصل

BOOKS

Sandy Wilson on the lyrics of Cole Porter and Noël Coward

Born to set our toes tapping



Cole Porter with Silk Stockings in 1961

The Complete Lyrics of Cole Porter

Edited by Robert Kimball
(Hamish Hamilton, £25)

The Lyrics of Noel Coward

(Methuen, £9.95, paperback £3.95)

My first memory of a Cole Porter lyric dates back to 1935, when C. B. Cochran presented *Anything Goes* at the Palace Theatre. My entire family went, while I was banished to an aunt in Scotland, but we had the records on the gramophone and I learned all the words of *You're the Top* – a task rendered far from easy by the fact that Cochran had cast in the part of Reno Sweeney, played on Broadway by Ethel Merman (Porter's favourite vocalist: every syllable of his lyrics hit the back of the balcony), a French lady called Jeanne Aubert. What is more, some of the lyrics had been Anglicized (by P. G. Wodehouse?) and one couplet went: "You're an ode by a leading songster/You're a road where there ain't no gongster" – a "gongster" being a policeman who, at that time, used to chase speeding motorists, beating, if you can believe it, a gong.

Then came his movie, *Born to Dance*, in which James Stewart sang – not at all badly – one of Porter's best romantic ballads, *Easy to Love*, to Eleanor Powell, and Virginia Bruce, as a Broadway star, vamped him with *I've Got You Under My Skin*, and, during a personal appearance on a battleship (Ah, the Thirties!), sang the musical and lyrical curiosity, *Love Me, Love My Pekingese*. No more Porter shows – such as *Jubilee, Red Hot and Blue*, and *Leave It To Me* – came to London in that decade, though some of their songs did; but during the War there was a rash of them: *Dubarry Was a Lady* with Frances Day and Arthur Riscoe, *Panama Hattie* with Bebe Daniels, *Something For The Boys* with Evelyn Dall, *Let's Face It* with Bobby Howes and Pat Kirkwood. The last did quite well, but the other three, which had all starred Merman in New York, failed to make much impact. But at the beginning of the 50s there arrived what many consider his masterpiece, *Kiss Me, Kate*, in which almost every song was perfection in itself and a perfect complement to the libretto. I say "almost" because Porter's wit, so scintillating in the 30s, became a little tarnished in the 40s and, in *Brush Up Your Shakespeare* ("Kick her right in the Coriolanus"), downright grubby. His next show, *Out Of This World*, a modern version of *Amphitryon*, though a failure, sounds like fun; but both *Can Can* and *Silk Stockings* were heavy-going.

My favourite American lyricist is Lorenz Hart, but Porter was also, of course, like Irving Berlin, his own composer, and although a lyric such as *Night and Day* may not read like much, when it is inextricably wedded to its melody it becomes something very special. In his best comedy lyrics Porter was urbane and delightfully flip, and numbers such as *Let's Not Talk About Love, Farming* and *The Leader of a Big Time Band* are compendiums of the topics and personalities of the day. Take this from the first: "Let's speak of Lamarr, that Hedy so fair/Why does she let Joan Bennett wear all her old hair?" – who today remembers that the blonde Miss Bennett suddenly went brunette in, I think, 1939? And in *Farming* we are told that George Raft's cows fail to calf because "Georgie's bull is beautiful but he's gay" – the first recorded use of the word in that sense (and a bitter loss to lyric-writers, I may say, since it has so many rhymes!). It is a measure of the sophistication of Broadway audiences at that time and of the intimacy of Manhattan that almost everyone knew who and what he was talking about.

This huge volume contains every single one of Cole Porter's lyrics, from his student days to his death, including many never used or cut from shows. It also has a foreword by John Updike and some attractive photographs (and two wrong captions: on p.138 "Virginia Bruce" should be "Una Merkel" and on p.220 "Janet Blair" should be "Cobina Wright Jr") but at £25 is hardly a snip. However, for Broadway buffs it could be a useful corrective to the often misinformed drivel one hears on the radio (usually on Sunday afternoons).

Coincidentally Methuen have republished the collected lyrics of Noël Coward. He once told me that he considered Cole Porter his only peer (he dismissed Hart as "vulgar") and, in a renowned collaboration, he added several choruses to Porter's *Let's Do It*. Coward's lyrics are, I think, better known in this country, perhaps because he recorded so many of them so superbly himself. Porter recorded a few of his – and extremely camp he sounds! There's no one to touch either of them today, I'm afraid; in the field of lyric-writing "Anything", it seems, "goes" – and the less one can hear of it, the better!

Hark! hark! the Larkin

Required Writing
By Philip Larkin

(Faber, £4.95)

It is an agreeable irony that the finest critic of our generation should be so reluctant to review. Telephone the Hull University Librarian with the proposition of a book to review, and he will murmur polite velleities that he had more time, and that it had been a detective story or a work about the Beatles. Occasionally Larkin agrees to review, which is why he has called his pieces from the past 30 years *Required Writing*. I can think of few other critics whose reviews would be worth collecting; and none whose collection would show so wide a range, and be so continually surprising and entertaining. The subjects range from the mandarin to the pop, from new ideas about Housman and Marvell, to jazz record reviews and James film-Bond, the childish Batman from Blades. One conspicuous quality of Larkin's criticism is its honesty. He is never scared to take the unfashionable view of the Emperor's clothes, whether they are modernism in the arts, Auden's poetry after he left England, the attractions of children, or himself: "Deprivation is for me what daffodils were for Wordsworth."

He is funny as well as sharp: "I should never call myself a book lover, any more than a people lover: it all depends what's inside them." He is sharp as well as funny: "Many poets are paranoiac bores, and those impure assemblages known as poetry readings are a wonderful new way of being paranoiacally boring." He is often moving, as when recalling the old excitement of jazz, and always sees farther than most of us. That is why it is worth persevering in asking him to review. His collected pieces are required reading, and the next best thing to a new collection of his poems.

Philip Howard

Woodrow Wyatt whales into Greenpeace

. . . is another man's poisson

Whales

Edited by Greg Gatenby
(Little Brown/Hutchinson, £27.50)

I thought the Greenpeace people were barmy before I saw this book. Now I know they are.

Whales and dolphins are being slaughtered around the world, with increasingly brutal efficiency, and are in grave danger of extinction. The thought that these beautiful creatures may be destroyed for ever is troubling in itself; it is also a foreboding of man's inability to control his greed and selfishness. And so the major purpose of* Whales: A Celebration *is to gain support, both financial and moral, for the cause of the cetaceans: to demonstrate the strong international objection to their destruction and raise funds for the Greenpeace Foundation's "Save the Whales Campaign".

But Whales have long been in no danger of extinction. The International Whaling Commission was set up in 1946. As a result commercial whaling has been rigorously reduced and controlled. It is estimated that the ten major species have a population of 2.8 million. The total catch for 1983/4 was fixed at a little over 10,000. Whales are making a strong recovery from the depletions of centuries of whaling.

Fin whale from The Times Atlas of the Oceans

There is a problem with the white Bowhead whale living in the Arctic. These are hunted by Alaskan Eskimos for food and oil. Catching them is a part of the Eskimo culture and whaling is their chief status symbol. Money was injected into the Eskimo economy by companies drilling for oil. So the Eskimos were able to buy more whaling boats and kill more Bowhead whales. But not now. Members of the International Whaling Commission have persuaded the US Government to reduce the numbers which can be caught, to the annoyance of the Eskimos, from 79 in 1977 to a total of 45 for the whole of the three years 1981/3.

Nowhere are whales under any threat of disappearance from whaling. Pollution in some waters could become dangerous. Shipping noises can disrupt the directional hearing on which whales depend. Fishing for human needs for krill which many whales eat as their staple diet could make it difficult for them but the ecological



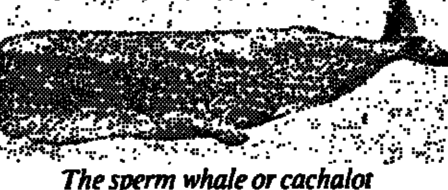
The slow-moving southern right whale

balance seems about right: though penguins whose diet is similar to whales' might have something to say about that. The more whales there are the less food for penguins and vice versa.

As for the beautiful intelligent dolphins they too, seem to be in no danger of vanishing. In some areas there is a threat to them but not over the world as a whole. Governments are aware that they must be protected. The American tuna industry had problems with dolphins a few years ago because the dolphins got caught in the tuna nets. Stringent regulations have been introduced into this type of fishing to reduce the mortality rate of dolphins. Man, it seems, is considerate for dolphins even when after food for himself.

Naturally none of the cheerful information about how whales and dolphins are getting on is contained in this book. That would spoil the fun. The contributions of the Greenpeace Foundation activists in this area is mainly to get in the way of whale boats fishing to strictly controlled limits in a manner which can be highly dangerous to seamen.

But don't let me put you off the book entirely. It is a collection of prose, poetry and pictures about whales and dolphins. Many of the pictures are good, the better the older they are, but some of the modern ones are meaningless. There are extracts from *Moby Dick*, of course, in which novel there is not much protest against whale catching; and all of the *Book of Jonah* is reproduced, happily in the King James's version. Yet I do not think this collection of this and that about whales and dolphins is worth £27.50 unless you wish to subscibe to the Greenpeace Foundations's "Save the Whales Campaign" which is redundant and serves no good at all.



The sperm whale or cachalot

London and Paris

The success of Hugh Casson's drawings lies in their humanity and sense of scale while his photographic eye enables him to make buildings look right without artistic embellishment. His ability to show in a flash and in a few delicate colours exactly what he wants is a priceless gift.

In Hugh Casson's London *(Dent, £9.95)* his anecdotes are always fresh and sometimes quite unbelievable: did he really wear a long college scarf and plus-fours at Cambridge? His staccato prose occasionally brings one up short, but he is never at a loss for an apt adjective.

It is curious that most of the buildings he deals with are actually worth drawing and odd too is the fact that whereas his guardsmen are always correctly upright his civilians normally lean into a strong wind.

The London Encyclopaedia *(Macmillan, £24)*, edited by Ben Weinreb and Christopher Hibbert, aims to tell us everything we should know about London. It relies upon, and acknowledges, many sources including Pevsner and the Survey of London, but I am worried by its inaccuracies. For example, Sir John Soane's Museum is referred to but has no entry; the tower of St Pancras Church is not a copy of the Tower of the Winds in Athens, but includes some of its design elements and some from the Choragic Monument of Lysicrates; The Hayward Gallery was designed not by Ove Arup and Partners but by the Architects' Department of the GLC under Sir Hubert Bennett. Arup's were the structural consultants.

These mistakes do not amount to much unless you happen to be buffing up your facts for the BBC's *Brain of Britain* contest, but they are there.

Paris *(Thames and Hudson, £25)* makes a big initial impact. Author John Russell and I are more or less of an age and our first impressions of what I used to think of as the world's most beautiful city were much the same. Here he has made an excellent choice of paintings, prints and above all period photographs, but at first I thought the rather small print of the text was merely to keep the illustrations apart. I was wrong, it has much of interest, perhaps rather too much. The book was first published in 1960 and has been considerably enlarged to the point where it is now almost an encyclopaedia. I wonder if that is a good thing.

Gontran Goulden

Fiction

Phagors, fuggies and bips

Helliconia Summer
By Brian Aldiss

(Cape, £8.50)

Light
By Eva Figes

(Hamish Hamilton, £6.95)

The first volume of Aldiss's Helliconia trilogy established an Earth-like planet which, he hoped, mirrored our concerns. "No one wants a passport to a nation of talking slugs." There was nothing sluggish about *Helliconia Spring* except its pace which, for me at least, destroyed that planet's "particular interest for the people of Earth." It read like a sophisticated shaggy-dog story revolving slowly aroung the rivalry between man and that beast-species (which can see in the dark and stand motionless for hours) – the phagor.

Things hot up considerably in this second instalment. It concentrates on the events of six months rather than hundreds of years and it consigns the phagors, albeit temporarily, to a servile role. The King of Borlien, a moody mixture of Hamlet and Henry the Eighth, becomes convinced his country will only survive if it enters an alliance with neighbouring Oldorando. He is persuaded to divorce his beautiful Queen – on the pretext that she has consorted carnally with dolphins – and marry the 11-year-old Princess of Oldorando.

Never mind that the characters have names like runny noses, for this is a familiar tale, told intelligently and with assurance, of survival and power and love; a tale which smacks less of science fiction than medieval romance. What jars is the method by which we are made aware it is science fiction. Scrutinizing the antics of King Jandol Anganol and Queen Myrdem Inggala (try those without a hanky) is a spaceship from Earth on which is held, wait for it, the Helliconia Holiday Lottery. The winner, in this case a boy called Billy, gets a one-way ticket to Helliconia knowing full well he will succumb to the helico-virus and die. I could have done without Billy.

This novel's strength over its predecessor lies as much in the structure as the story, which, narrated in a round-about way, emphasizes Helliconia's principal difference with Earth – the length of its years. Other differences are conveyed by means of an indigenous vocabulary. In some places its details are so dense and technical that one glosses over them; in others a glossary is needed to distinguish between fessups, fuggies and stungebags. In the main, though, this vocabulary does give credence to a successfully imagined world. It doesn't take a specialist to understand the Helliconain girl who complains "you're hurting my bips."

"I have had my vision", proclaims the artist Lily Brisco at the end of *To the Lighthouse*. I have almost had Eva Figes's. One cries Woolf yet again in reading *Light* which was shortlisted for the Whitbread Fiction Prize. One also cries Figes. "Light", began her last novel *Waking*, which in its limpid, poetic prose recalled *The Waves*. "Glowing yellow. It spills into the room of wavering shadows and forms a pool on the floor." Not much has changed in *Light*, where "strips of light spilled on the waxed floor in bright pools."

This novella follows a day in the life of the Monet family from dawn to dusk one summer's day at Giverny. The style, like the content, is impressionistic. "We live in a luminous cloud of changing light, a sort of envelope", explains Monet. "That is what I have to catch." In the blue-grey hush before dawn he goes to paint his lily pond in which, like a polished mirror, is trapped earth, water and sky. He blows smoke rings and feels himself inside an "aquamarine bubble".

On dry land, as the sun floods the air with "white and gold, so that nothing was visible but light itself", his grandaughter, Lily, blows bubbles of soap from a clay pipe and feels "an urge to talk to pansies". A friend joins the family for lunch; Lily's widowed father returns from Paris and that, really, is that. It is fragile, shimmering and somewhat transparent world that Figes paints; a world which though drenched with all the colours of the rainbow, leaves the mind a blank. To read her delicate, elegant, but unadventurous prose is to look through a stocking that is sometimes silken sometimes nylon. *Light* may be an often beautifully painted still life, but one certainly feels the static.

Nicholas Shakespeare

Making newspapers redundant?

The Fifth Generation

Japan's Computer Challenge to the World

By Edward A. Feigenbaum & Pamela McCorduck

(Michael Joseph, £9.95)

The Fifth Generation is a lucid and powerful political tract. Its purpose is to launch a billion dollar crusade in the United States to develop computers with Artificial Intelligence.

The authors define AI, as it is known in the trade, as "making *a computer behave in ways that* mimic intelligent human behaviour." And they make an articulate attempt to persuade us that such machines are worth making.

The Intelligent Newspaper is one of many possibilies discussed in the book: a computer terminal trained to pick out stories that will interest you from hundreds of electronic news sources. Another is a geriatric robot to care for old people while listening to their repetitive stories of the past, without ever becoming bored like a human companion.

But Feigenbaum and McCorduck rely more on the argument of industrial competition. Japan has embarked on a Fifth Generation computer project that will give it worldwide industrial dominance unless the United States devote similar resources to AI.

The Jap-scare approach, with its appeals to American patriotism and to "national security", seems to be working. The book has had significant political impact in the United States, where the government and computer companies are now rallying for the crusade.

The Fifth Generation is undoubtedly the year's most important book about computers.

Clive Cookson

Crime

Hard truths about prejudice

The Dark Fantastic
By Stanley Ellin

(André Deutsch, £8.95)

Here is a book by one of the truth-tellers. In crime fiction, where emphasis is placed on boiling up excitement, ingenious reader tricking, and other tradesmen's devices, such books are rare, though Ellin is by no means the only truth-teller in the field. But he is decidedly there, in whatever aspect of his story he is handling. The nasty equally with the good are depicted so as you believe this is what such people are like, through and through. The tough and the touching, the hater and the lovers, all are made to seem real.

But excitement, that contractual quality in this sort of novel, is in no way sacrificed. Ellin's story tells of a madman, or near madman, determined to blow up a New York tenement inhabited by blacks and of the Italian-American private investigator who, by chance, is drawn into discovering what is happening. And Ellin tells this tale for a reason: to write about prejudice. Centrally he considers race prejudice, that itch so much more deeply embedded in the American psyche than in ours. (After all, it was at the heart of their Civil War almost within living memory, as ours with its equivalent religious prejudice is not.) But peripherally Ellin is able to deal with national prejudice and sex prejudice too, each reflecting on his theme, neither ousting his story.

Add that he writes American, that invigoratingly punchy language, and you have a book to savour. There are one-liners in the high tradition (a man "so cagey he wouldn't enter a confessional without taking his lawyer along") and there are incidental phrases sharp as cattle-goads ("The sight... goosed Mustache into action"). These come by the dozen. They speed you along at stampede pace.

The Hanging Tree, by Bill Knox *(Hutchinson, £7.95)*. Scots-eye-view of the newest major crime, video piracy, with not even murder barred. If you can imagine porridge made exciting, this is it.

State's Evidence, by Stephen Greenleaf *(New English Library, £8.95)*. Today's version of the classic American private-eye tale with all the good ingredients, plus, alas, a plethora of long words over too many pages.

The Pangersbourne Murders, by Jeremy Sturrock *(Hale, £7.95)*. Rollicking Georgian investigation into horticultural malfeasance. Period detail pops up a-gogo, if not always quite convincingly.

The Russian Intelligence, by Michael Moorcock *(The English Library, £7.95)*. Can you revise a jape? S.F: prodigal prizewinner Moorcock has with this 1966 nudge-nudge spy frolic re-vamped, bludgeon sarcasm and all.

The Cruise of a Deathtime, by Marian Babson *(Collins, £6.75)*. Cumulative corpses aboard, with a sharp look at maritime fun. Miss Babson happily and adroitly light fantastics the trip.

H. R. F. Keating



THE TIMES DIARY

Going up, and up

The Chief of the Defence Staff has always been chosen according to the principle of Buggins' turn, the heads of the three services rotating as overall chief. According to these rules, the next Chief should be Air Chief Marshal Sir Keith Williamson. It is far more likely, however, that he will be passed over in favour of Sir John Fieldhouse, Chief of Naval Staff and First Sea Lord, who distinguished himself during the Falklands war. Last month, Sir John received a further distinction: he was made an honorary member of the Halley's Comet Society in a ceremony which took place in the King Henry VIII cellar at the Ministry of Defence.

Mandarin red

The Association of First Division Civil Servants, which is affiliated to the TUC, has a suitably workmanlike diary for 1984. It is bound in dark red leatherette and contains a London underground map and lists of leave allowances. Fittingly, for such a top people's union, it also includes a vintage chart.

'Ark at that

London schoolchildren sang a new, downbeat carol at the ILEA carol festival earlier this week. Called *The Reindeer Song*, its chorus goes:

"I'm a fourth-rate, clapped-out reindeer,
Can't get my footwork right,
I'm gonna wreck that Yuletide sleigh-ride,
Gonna goof it on the night."

ILEA music coordinator Rosemary Mitchell, who wrote the lyrics, said she thought all the existing reindeer songs "very mawkish". She describes her new version as "a street-culture kind of song – the children sing it in a very London way, like street arabs."

● **Discussing the noble pedigree of George de Stacpoole, new-born heir to a viscountcy, marquisate and Ireland's only papal dukedom, the *Irish Independent* insists that the baby's ancestors came over with *Sir* William the Conqueror.**

Flat out

Anyone about to park a radio-controlled toy car in a Christmas stocking should be aware that a full-sized family car is probably cheaper to run. A colleague returned a toy version to the shop where he had bought it the day before for his son's birthday. He complained that the toy had ceased to function quite early on the birthday morn and was told, "It's the batteries, Sir. They only last seven minutes." At £1.20 a set, that's more expensive than three-star petrol.

BARRY FANTONI



"Books, books, books . . . we'll get fat on *books*"

Software

In announcing voting procedures for the *Today* programme's Man and Woman of the Year event, announcer Peter Hobday seemed to be asking for the title of Male Chauvinist of the Year for himself. He asked listeners who wished to nominate both a man *and* a woman to list the names on separate postcards because the BBC's computer could not cope with two names on one card – "the computer, I'm afraid, being somewhat human and female."

Going down roses

Next April, Chatto and Windus publish *A Nice Girl Like Me*, an account of journalist Rosie Boycott's battle with alcohol. The catalogue description runs: "After her time at the exclusive Cheltenham Ladies' College, Rosie found her way into the London counter-culture of the Seventies, experimenting with dope, sex and booze. She wound up in a Thai jail on drug smuggling charges. She spent time in an Indian ashram watching a friend die of cancer . . . Then somehow it all went wrong."

Jacked up

London's casino owners had better look sharp now Doug is back in town. Doug isn't his real name but then neither is Frank Dracman, which he sometimes uses. Two years ago, Doug bought a computer and taught himself how to programme it to keep track of every single card used during a game of blackjack. Puzzled casino owners in Las Vegas aren't sure what he's up to but a lot of them, knowing he's up to something, have denied him entrance. Doug reasons that if he gets thrown out of every casino in America, he may have to settle here; hence his reluctance to reveal his real name. He can be seen on television in *A Wedding in Las Vegas*, on BBC1 on December 27. What you can't see is how he uses computer technology to get a mathematical advantage over the casino.

PHS

Coming to terms with the evil eye

As the House of Lords prepares to debate the television of its proceedings, Austin Mitchell MP urges his colleagues in both houses to take the last steps towards admitting the cameras

The Commons are dithering on the brink of television. Resistance looks dated and last-ditch. Yet we will still have to be pushed into our final decision. That push into the twentieth century could well be administered by a bastion of the nineteenth, the House of Lords.

Instead of concentrating on the realities of our role and how it can be made relevant to a modern society in which people get most of their news and information from television, the argument in Parliament has been dominated by prejudice and fear. Most MPs still like to see the chamber as a forum for persuasion by deliberation. In fact, of course, we have government by party, the verdict pre-ordained. Yet the party battle can have no din, its stage no audience, unless both reach the public. At the moment they clearly do not. On this rational basis there is no real argument against television. We use it or Parliament continues to decline in reliance, respect and public standing.

Television has the audience whose attention the politicians seek. Unable to cover parliamentary politics in any mediagenic way, it has been forced to stage its own political circuses with Sir Robin and Alistair and others as ring masters. We now view the results with a mixture of fear and envy, eager to appear but always ready to cry foul.

Parliament deals with eternal verities; television sensationalizes, trivializes, dilutes with entertainment. In short, it distorts. But the other fear is contradictory. We also worry that television will show Parliament's reality, the vast acres of empty benches, MPs sleeping, gossiping, picking their noses, or alternatively shouting, screaming, hounding Mrs Thatcher and generally re-enacting feeding time at Whipsnade.

The arguments against admitting the cameras are as strong, as prejudiced and as irrelevant as ever, but the Commons have now voted, albeit by a small majority, in favour of the principle.

Younger MPs are less deferential to encrusted tradition; public opinion is in favour and most other legislatures have shown the way. Finally, cable is coming, with it the ability to do what radio should be doing: providing continuous coverage of the kind that those interested can tune into and drop out of as they wish.

This is the importance of the Lords' vote. Because television confers importance on anything it covers – indeed many people assume that nothing *can* be important unless covered by television – televising the Lords would threaten the Commons', primacy. More important, though, the Lords can show that television can improve and not demean, that serious discussion of serious issues does occur.

It's a shame that the raw material, their lordships, is not as good as we can offer. Yet their experience will allow fears to vanish like mists before the rising sun. Soon we will all be wondering why we never had television before. What took us so long?

Which leaves only the technical problem of what kind of coverage. My own Bills have been based on introducing the Canadian system: coverage by unobtrusive, wall-mounted cameras, neutral mid-shots of the Member speaking with no cutaways or reaction shots, the whole controlled by the Commons itself, just as *Hansard* is. This makes for duller television – the broadcasting organizations are not happy with it – but I opted for it because it makes introduction easier.

Unfortunately, such coverage is expensive: installation in the USA cost $1.2m. The television channels can be asked to contribute but the costs must come from the public purse, which is hardly an attractive proposal for a government like the present. The Lords, being bolder spirits, may well opt for the alternative, which is to hand themselves over to the TV organizations.

The Government could opt for a compromise: outside money, ultimate control inside. These considerations are tactical and technical. The reality is that we stand on the brink of change. The Government should take us there.

The author is Labour MP for Grimsby.

Land of myth and missile: Roger Boyes reports from East Germany

Behind the wire, a chill wind of war



Berlin

War and peace, hell and heaven: visions of the apocalypse crowd the thickset woodland of Thuringia, with its witches and its imps, its T-72 tanks and sparkling new missiles. This is the front line of the Warsaw Pact and the nervousness of the East Germans is everywhere in evidence. In the air there is *Kriegsstimmung*, war-mood, though the official talk is of peace, of special peace shifts in the factories, of concerts for peace, of peace film festivals.

Soviet soldiers are ubiquitous: political officers with relatively long hair and bulging briefcases read *Izvestia* on the commuter trains, callow conscripts from Kirghizia, barely able to speak Russian and bewildered by the Germans, thrust a movement order at a passer-by, hoping for directions they can understand. The smell of their damp snow-sodden gaberdine mingles with the scents of Christmas, the pine and the candles.

Hell, we know from Thuringian mythology, is in East Germany. The story goes that a pious English noblewoman (queen in some accounts) named Reinswig was informed that her husband, recently dead, could be heard howling and screaming in hell's torment from deep within a cave in the village of Saettlestaett. At the entrance of hell, she set up a chapel to administer to the damned and for a while the soul of her husband was at peace.

Nowadays in Saettlestaett the images of hell and the loud gnashing of teeth come from the television sets. Almost every household in East Germany – the notable exception is Dresden – can pick up West German television and there was scarcely a family in the state that did not follow the recent parliamentary debates in Bonn on the stationing of cruise and Pershings. For once the *Schwarze Kanal* – the Black Channel – did not undermine the East German propaganda machine, but rather supported it, fed the new myths of Thuringia to the East German viewer.

It seemed as if devil-in-the-flesh Reagan, assisted ably by his apprentice Helmut Kohl, had trampled on public opinion and imposed a new tension on East-West relations that would above all hurt the East Germans. ("Do you think this is going to make it any easier for us to travel to the West? It's a mistake, a blunder": thus a young teenager who in the West would clearly have been a Green.)

The Bundestag vote, poached from the television screens, had two other effects on the public mood: it made it easier for those whose official role is to justify new Soviet missiles to the East German population and it has made the work of the fledgling unofficial peace movement in Eastern Europe more difficult (though, they would say, more urgent).

Red banners in Weimar, in Erfurt, shout about the indestructible friendship with the Soviet Union and the Soviet army, rather as an Oxford Street tout will hoarsely advertise the merits of a toy designed to withstand the bombardment of a three-year-old. The Russians are known, often ironically, sometimes with a pitying shrug, as the "friends". There are quite a lot of friends: most western estimates say 380,000 men in East Germany, a large proportion of them in Thuringia. Add some 10,000 main battle tanks and the armoury of long and not-so-long-range missiles and it becomes clear that this friendship, if not indestructible, is at least enduring.

Moreover with an East German "people's army" of 115,000 and an active force of 50,000 border troops, there seems little doubt that this is one of the most densely militarized areas in the world. As befits a friendship sealed in Potsdam rather than heaven, the Russians keep their distance. In their Erfurt barracks they have their own cinema, library and clubroom. When they come to town they are kept on a tight leash.

Free German Youth (FDJ) activists deny there is any tension between the Russians and the East Germans and say too that the new western missiles will cement the relationship. "As soon as the Bundestag made its decisions there were spontaneous meetings in factories to discuss the situation. There is no room for doubt any more."

But there are doubters still. Many church communities have been expressing their fears about the new Soviet missiles, though they must do so discreetly, for this is dangerous terrain. Speakers at the recent Mecklenburg synod criticized the missiles, and the parish of Babelsberg sent a letter to the party leader, Erich Honecker – printed in the party daily *Neues Deutschland* – saying they were deeply afraid of a "deterioration in the situation between the two superpowers" (without pinning the blame solely on the United States).

The swords-into-ploughshares symbol of the East German peace movement, possession of which was once enough to attract detention and questioning, is back, printed on bookmarks and pamphlets.

The difference between the West and East German peace movements, besides the obvious contrasts in size and legality, is that the West is concerned with protesting against its limited sovereignty, the sense of powerlessness that comes when American hardware is distributed throughout the German countryside. The East Germans have lived with limited sovereignty for a long time and they know that a Soviet withdrawal is not feasible, not a realistic goal.

Instead, the movement – nobody knows how many people it embraces, perhaps several hundred in Jena and East Berlin – concentrates on trying to slow down the pace of the militarization of East German society. Priests complain that children have problems at school if they do not take part in para-military training, that apprentices are forced as part of their contract to take part in shooting exercises.

The peace activists in Jena, some of whom are now in jail, want more: open discussion of the possibility of a nuclear-free Europe; the honouring of the right of conscripts to serve in construction brigades rather than carry arms; a guarantee that women will not be recruited into the army. The harassment of these activists continues.

But in general *Kriegsstimmung* leads not to dissident pressure for action against Soviet missiles, but rather for a more sympathetic attitude to Honecker's leadership. This Mr Honecker exploits with some tactical skill. He tells the Central Committee that new Soviet missiles will be stationed at a faster rate to counter the cruise and Pershing, but this is firmly identified as the fault of the West. At the same time he declares that he is open to any new initiative to improve relations with Bonn.

It is the mime of injured innocence, an oddly credible act for his citizens. And somewhere amid all the manoeuvring, buck-passing and propaganda games, the actual cause of the fuss, the stationing of Soviet SS-20 missiles, has been forgotten, buried under the images of nuclear war and nuclear peace, of hell and heaven.

But why no artistry on the outside too?

Just over a year ago Michael Heseltine, the minister concerned, announced that all the schemes in the competition for the National Gallery extension on the adjoining bomb site had been rejected, but that one of the three finalists, Ahrends Burton & Koralek (ABK), in association with Trafalgar House, had been invited to meet the trustees to produce a mutually acceptable scheme.

At last the new scheme has been unveiled, prior to an application for planning permission and an inevitable public inquiry.

The original competition, a joint affair which combined architects and property developers, resulted in almost as chaotic a situation as most Victorian competitions, in which, notoriously, the winner never got to build his design. As well as ABK, designs by the well-known American architectural firm of Skidmoor Owens and Merrill and the high-tech whizkid Richard Rogers were commended (or would have been had this been an ordinary competition).

It was then learned that the trustees preferred the Skidmoor design, but Mr Heseltine, in a fit of patriotism – this was not long after the Falklands war – decided on a British firm and chose ABK. The Richard Rogers design had been damned by the praise of the president of RIBA for the way it said "sod you" to the other buildings in Trafalgar Square; this inaugurated a new phase of architectural criticism. As might be imagined, the designer of the Pompidou Centre in Paris and the new Lloyds Building in the City had draped the outside of his building in brightly coloured pipes, and at the corner by the Gallery he had designed a tower in the form of an oil rig.

ABK, on the other hand, had eschewed all such flashiness and designed a building surprisingly Roman in character, a square block, the inside scooped out in a great crescent, from which you entered the gallery, the elevations strongly symmetrical with Caracalla-like windows and a curved roof pierced with oval lunettes.

The design had a gravitas suitable to its position and although, like all the other designs (because of the brief), did not make any attempt to improve the facade of the National Gallery itself – which has always proved an unsatisfactory backdrop to one of London's very few imperial spaces – did at least offer an architecture which could happily take its place beside its neighbours in Pall Mall East.

It has been questioned whether the Gallery needs the extra space, but even if it does, no effort was made to consider any other solution to its problems. The most obvious would be to extend the National Gallery upwards and pay for this by selling the bomb site to the highest bidder. But one of the troubles with competitions is that the brief is fixed.

So the architects were landed with the problem of designing a building with mutally incompatible functions, an art gallery above a prestige office block. An office on this site can only be used as a headquarters building, which Trafalger House intends. It was no doubt this almost impossible task that caused all the delays in announcing the new scheme.

But alas it has meant that all the quality of the original design has been lost in the process. Instead of the Caracalla windows we now have a typical framed building of the late 1960s, sheets of glass below for the offices and panels of Bath stone above. This stone contrasts insensitively with the Portland stone of some of the plinths in the new buildings and, of course, the buildings to either side of the extension.

The most important new addition as far as the public is concerned is a glass-faced tower which, like the Seifert Prudential building in the City, ends in a series of stone planes and what look like scaffold poles.

The circular court is retained from the earlier but to little purpose now since the entrance is from the street by the tower. The courtyard is left merely to generate a minor cyclone round which all the rubbish of Trafalgar Square will blow.

Perhaps it is too much to expect today that we might see classical architecture on a public building (though many buildings in the private sector now being built, even in the City, are using classical details) but is it too much to ask that an extension to the most important of English art galleries could at least have some *art*, either sculpture or murals, on the outside?

And for that matter, why must all the galleries be barren of any architecture, just great bland shells to exhibit art divorced from all human contact and anything that can give it life?

A great deal more work must be done before this building can become a worthy addition to even the wet architecture of the National Gallery.

Roderick Gradidge

Ronald Butt

Floored by their very own flaw

Mr Giles Radice, Labour spokesman on education, Mr Fred Jarvis of the National Union of Teachers, and Mr John Swallow, president of the National Association of Head Teachers, have pronounced judgment on the Cox-Marks report on *Standards in English Schools*. Their finding is that the Department of Education and Science has been traduced.

Baroness Cox and Dr John Marks, of the National Council for Educational Standards, had produced a report whose research showed that the examination results of grammar and secondary modern schools together were better than those of comprehensive schools. It immediately encountered bitter hostility from educational writers. Sir Keith Joseph, Education Secretary, then asked the DES statisticians to appraise the report. Subsequently, a series of leaks from the DES told the world that the Cox-Marks research had been found, by the department's experts, to be "seriously flawed".

Verbatim extracts of parts of the DES critique, selected to convey this message, appeared in parts of the press, but Baroness Cox and Dr Marks were in no position to defend their research since the DES would not give them a copy. Eventually, however, the authors managed to get a copy from a journalist less hostile to their point of view. They also received a letter from Sir Keith Joseph refusing any DES funding for their future research, but suggesting a meeting between the authors and DES statisticians.

The meeting took place in the presence of Sir Keith, and the statisticians admitted that an error of their own in appraising the report had been responsible for the doubts about the representativeness of the Cox-Marks sample. They were now reassured that the sample had been representative.

The only significant question remaining was how far class and economic circumstances were material to such research. It was agreed that the Cox-Marks report had taken account of as much evidence of this sort as was available from the DES, but that the DES ought to, and would, make more such evidence generally available.

Thus an amicable conclusion was reached, after which Sir Keith published the agreed DES statement welcoming the pioneering work of the NCES, and accepting its statistical validity. Contrary to some reports, he said, the DES did not regard it as "seriously flawed". Where, then, had this accusation come from? Not from the chief statistician, Mr Wakefield, who pointed out that he had never used it.

The question is of considerable interest now that Mr Radice, writing to *The Times* (Dec 3) has condemned the "blatant political pressure applied in an attempt to override the DES's careful assessment of the report" and Mr Jarvis and Mr Swallow in a further letter (Dec 6), have said that Sir Keith should speak up for his staff against its critics given the "constitutional limitation" (no irony is presumably intended)" on their freedom to respond to public criticism."

Having now obtained a copy of the leaked (if less than "careful") DES critique, I am able to explain all, and a wondrous story it is. The critique was in three parts. First, there was the statisticians' report. This, despite its own admitted statistical error, was by no means crudely hostile to the Cox-Marks research, which it recognized as pioneering work serving "a most useful purpose."

Secondly, there was the department's own "commentary" (also six pages) by the schools branch. Though it spoke of "serious criticisms" of data and methodology, it noted the report's "stimulus to public debate" particularly since "exam results are now very much on the agenda in comparing different types of school system." But what matters is the third part, a two-page covering memorandum by Mr N. W. Stuart of the School Branch:

"Attached is the Department's commentary commissioned by the Secretary of State," he wrote. "It concludes that the research methods were flawed to the extent that the findings must be open to serious question." As for the "elusive prospect" of a final, decisive piece of research to resolve the difference between the two sides of the schools system argument, "I am driven towards the conclusion that this is a fundamental political and philosophical divide, with research just one of the instruments of battle."

This was "important in considering where we go next". If the NCES were refused funding, Mr Stuart wrote, the Secretary of State would "upset his political friends." But if he said yes, there would be "uproar in academic circles (which, precisely, I wonder?) where there is no confidence in the NCES's professional ability to conduct statistically-based research".

There must, he thought, be a temptation to "hold the ring" and for the DES itself to commission an authoritative piece of research work in this area. He then describes, briefly, two possible models for it, adding blandly: "Whatever the model, a good deal of further work would be needed (and I note now that at its present complement my branch does not have the manpower available to take this on) before research bodies were invited to tender for what would be an expensive and lengthy project."

Oh, Sir Humphrey, bow your head for you have met your better! Was there ever a neater way of condemning a piece of research, unheard, behind the closed doors of Whitehall, and of putting its purpose on ice? But it was the leaked polemic of the edited condemnation (of which, of course, I do not suggest that Mr Stuart himself was aware) which was the really heavy stuff, denigrating *bona fide* research which would have been defenceless if Sir Keith had not intervened.

Such is the officialdom to whose rescue Messrs Jarvis, Swallow and Radice gallop with, as their only ammunition, a letter from Mr Wakefield to the NCES authors, and Sir Keith Joseph's letter turning down the NCES funds application, *both of which were written before* the departmental retraction. They should do their homework better.

All this has serious educational implications but it is also an example of an increasingly prevalent kind of Whitehall leak (particularly from the "social" departments, which have their own highly politicized positions) designed to frustrate any development repugnant to received departmental doctrine.

The attempted descrediting of the Cox-Marks report is one of three such incidents from the DES. It has backfired, and the authors have been able to defend themselves, but only by accident. It is, of course, the business of the journalist (with few exceptions) to publish what he can get from any source. But it is not the business of civil servants to indulge in this kind of politics. When a department has something of this sort to say, it should say it openly, provided its Minister agrees.

Paul Pickering

Run from the rabbit, run, run, run

An enormous white rabbit is lurking among the slag heaps of south Yorkshire, having evaded the efforts of the local constabulary and rabbit experts brought in to track him down. Buck, as he is called, is from New Zealand and is apparently rather larger than a Labrador, being four and a half feet long. He has a nasty temper when roused.

"It's a sign", said my grandfather. "White beasts are always a portent of doom and disaster, and things going wrong in the world." Certainly if one caught sight of pink-eyed Buck starting to dig Bakerloo Line-sized burrows under one's house it would be bad luck indeed.

Buck is dangerous when cornered, and far from the well-behaved, cultured creature with a waistcoat and pocket watch, that Alice meets in Wonderland, he has a hatred of the precious Pommie attitude to rabbits as cuddly bundles of fur who will repay with affection a draughty hutch and occasional mouldy cabbage. He loathes children.

"If threatened by a stranger, Buck would first try to find a way out, to run", said his owner, Mr Arthur Butterfield. "But then, if there was nowhere left to go, he would stand and fight, biting and scratching with his teeth and claws. He is very powerful." In short, Buck is the rabbit equivalent of Moby Dick.

"He was always all right with me though", said Arthur, a former haulage contractor who took to rabbits after his business folded. "You just have to get to know him, but my wife could not get near him. He didn't like anyone he didn't know and I would never let children play with him.

"There's no way a total stranger could do anything with him, and a friend of mine got terrible scratches when we were having a look at one of his cars. His claws are half an inch long and razor sharp. If someone has rustled him, he must have had a struggle".

But sightings of the antipodean albino leaping along the streets on cold winter nights in search of the odd lorry-load of lettuce argue against his being turned into enough *lapin à la moutarde* to feed a family of four for a week.

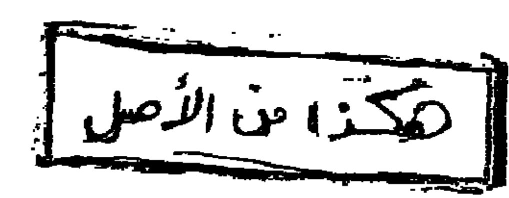
Rawmarsh police, on whose beat the animal had his bungalow-style hutch, do not give up easily. "Do you know that, sold as a stud animal, it could be worth £15", said an enthusiastic superintendent. "Every kitten it sires is worth 50 pence, and a female rabbit is missing too."

One tap-room theory is that Buck is being made to sire hundreds of other potential Bucks which will be sold cut-price under very large counters in less than respectable pet shops. Another is that rabbit fighting, with two colossal antipodeans kicking, biting and gouging hell out of each other, is the coming fashion in a recession-hit area. No one can afford to keep bull terriers any more.

My grand-dad's terrier, a confirmed vegetarian, shows no enthusiasm to hunt the monster. And just imagine the shame of admitting to the wife that one's ferrets had been gobbled up by Buck like so much fettuccine. Hare coursing would be a riot if the greyhounds suddenly encountered him.

But while the big white Buck might bring an end to these simple northern pleasures as we know them, what does the ghostly creature signify in supernatural terms? What disaster does he foretell as we sit huddled in our homes these winter nights while he stalks abroad?

It is no coincidence that Anthony Wedgwood Benn is trying to hop into Eric Varley's safe seat just a few miles to the south, in the peaceful town of Chesterfield, the direction in which the monster rabbit is said to be heading. For when there's a white rabbit around one can be sure that the Mad Hatter is never far away, and as Grand-dad says, the bigger the rabbit the madder the hatter.



TIMES PAST THE TIMES
P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

TIME TO SIT TIGHT

It is very tempting for Britain to sit back and enjoy the crisis into which the failure of the Athens summit has plunged the European Community. The essence of British complaints about the Community has always been that it is too expensive, and that far too high a proportion of the money spent goes on agriculture, a sector which is relatively less important in the British economy than in those of most of our partners. In the past Britain has been able to do little about this except rant and rave. By behaving very badly, we have each year managed to bully or cajole our partners into giving us some of our money back.

We had to behave badly, because the rules were loaded against us before we ever joined the Community, through a deal between France and West Germany in the mid 1960s. France got the Common Agricultural Policy as the price for opening its market to German industrial goods. The policy meant that agricultural products could be sold throughout the Community at a fixed price, protected by a common external tariff and maintained through a common fund which purchased any surplus. By a further twist, the prices of many products were fixed higher than France would have required, so as to ensure that West Germany's relatively inefficient farmers did not lose out.

Britain, with few, but relatively efficient, farmers, and with consumers used to cheap imported food, had little to gain from this arrangement but until now has lacked the clout to get it changed. At last the ever-rising cost of the policy has provided us with a lever, as well as bringing at least some of our partners some of the way round to our point of view. Others beside us are beginning to feel the expenditure pinch. In any case the Community cannot, without a unaminous decision of its members, extract from them an income equivalent to more than one per cent of value added in all taxable transactions. Spending as it now is, the Community is about to hit its head hard against that ceiling, and the ceiling cannot be raised without British consent.

Britain wants a package of reforms including reduced expenditure. If Britain is not satisfied expenditure will have to be reduced anyway. So this time Britain does not need to behave badly. She can sit demure and smug, with arms folded, until her partners come up with a proposal she is willing to accept.

That being so, suggestions that we should withhold our budget contribution or resort to sanctions against our partners are quite unnecessary and betray a misunderstanding of the situation. They would only be in order if our partners resort to breaking the rules in an attempt to ignore our demands. On this issue we can afford a policy of "no first strike".

What we should be doing now is calculating the price we can reasonably expect to charge for our eventual agreement to an increase in "own resources", and deploying our most intense and persuasive diplomacy to convince our partners – that is, public opinion as well as governments in fellow member-states – that it is a price worth paying because the Community as a whole, not just Britain, needs an equitable financial system and a reasonable balance of expenditure. There is no need to envenom the atmosphere. On the contrary, we can afford, and we need, to mount an *offensive de charme*.

We should draw attention, especially, to the plight of the most innocent victims of the present crisis: the Spanish and Portuguese, who are waiting for the Community to pull itself together sufficiently to give a clear answer to their applications for membership. It is in the context of their joining, as members with a lower than average per capita GNP, that an overall increase in Community expenditure would actually make some sense. The package that includes such an increase must also include terms for their admission. Otherwise there is a real risk that Spanish attitudes to the Community, in particular, will go sour.

Spain, like Britain, has historically been ambivalent about her relationship to the European continent. In the last ten years or so she has made tremendous efforts to affirm her European identity. If now rebuffed, or kept waiting indefinitely on the doorstep, she may have second thoughts. That would have negative implications for her membership of Nato, for the prospects of defusing the Gibraltar issue (and so for Anglo-Spanish bilateral relations), and perhaps even for Spanish democracy. Avoiding it should be a high priority, for Britain and for Europe.

ANSWERING THAT FILM

Lord Reith observed in 1927 that he and his BBC colleagues had "responsibilities far heavier than had ever fallen to the lot of any other group of individuals". Even Lord Reith perhaps dropped this hyperbole in a spirit of sombre raillery, but his successors have never lost sight of the weight of responsibility that control of the media imposes. Neither have politicians, who sometimes court and sometimes resent the independence of those in charge of the means of publicity. A complex and partly unwritten code governs the relationship between government and broadcasters. Mr Michael Heseltine is reported to have proposed a new clause in that code by asking for exclusive television time to make a comment at the end of the film *The Day After* on ITV on Saturday.

Reviewers who saw the film in the USA last month found it sentimental and unsubtle, but striking in dramatic force and technical effects. Mr Heseltine's desire to strike out into the field of dramatic criticism has less to do with production values than with possible political effect. Fiction does not have to be a major work of art to have political impact: *Uncle Tom's Cabin* was also sentimental, but it made people attend to a great injustice, and its influence on opinion was profound.

Mr Heseltine is acutely aware of the danger of letting the unilateralists gain the initiative in the debate over defence. The danger is real. CND is preparing itself to capitalize on fears and despondencies that the film may provoke. The Government is right to respond energetically. The horrors of nuclear war are evidence that can be turned to account by advocates of security through deterrence and the search for peace through bilateral negotiation, quite as relevantly as by unilateralists. It is well for the public to be reminded of what is at stake from time to time, as Mr Heseltine appreciated when he urged people to see the film.

But to seek exclusive time to put an official gloss on the film immediately after it is broadcast risks making the film out to be more important than it is. Mr George Shultz did so in the USA, but the conventions are different there, and perhaps the message implicit in such a step is different. No minister in Britain has ever sought a right of television reply to a work of fiction, however distorted he may have considered it to be. Such a precedent would harmfully trivialize ministerial statements and express lack of trust in the judgments of the broadcasting authorities and of the public.

The Secretary of State has the option of requesting a formal ministerial broadcast, which would go out on all channels – BBC as well as ITV – and would give opposition parties a right of reply. The unwritten code does not oblige the authorities to accede to his request, but they would be unlikely to refuse even where it was so plainly an excessive response. Mr Heseltine has been invited to take part in the discussion programme afterwards, but such programmes rarely rise far above the bandying of slogans, and he is right to be reluctant. A minister of the Crown never lacks means of making his views public, and it is an error to give the appearance of trying to get round the conventions by seeking what would in effect be a ministerial broadcast, without right of reply for his opponents. The British public is not so immature that it cannot be trusted to keep its head over a piece of science fiction.

NEWS MANAGEMENT IN MOSCOW

The appearance of Soviet leaders at press conferences in Moscow is part of a more sophisticated approach to the Western media; it is not however a step towards more open government. The job of a foreign correspondent in the USSR is difficult. If he pursues the news in a manner considered normal in other countries, he risks immediate expulsion for espionage. He is obliged to obtain permission from the authorities before making any trip out of the capital. Yet if he confines himself to analysing reports in the official press he may as well operate at home and save his employers the vast expense of maintaining a Moscow correspondent.

The Kremlin has long been distributing its own publications, translated into the major languages of the world, in the hope of influencing public opinion outside the Soviet block. Like the foreign broadcasts of Moscow Radio, however, these periodicals are so clearly propagandist in style and content that their impact is minimal. Now the Soviet leaders have discovered that if they are prepared to be photographed and interviewed by foreign correspondents, their views are assured more news space and attention in the West than when merely circulated in their own controlled media.

Monday's press conference with three leading Soviet spokesmen, including Marshal Nikolai Ogarkov, the Chief of Staff, was aimed at persuading the public in NATO countries that their government, by proceeding with the deployment of US missiles in Western Europe, were wholly responsible for the Soviet departure from the Geneva talks on intermediate nuclear forces. Moscow was clearly sending a message to those who wish to disarm the West unilaterally, encouraging them to continue their demonstrations. Mr Georgy Kornienko, a deputy foreign minister, denied claims by Western leaders that Soviet negotiators would soon return to Geneva "as if nothing had happened" and Marshal Ogarkov hinted that the stategic arms talks (START) which end their current round on Thursday are also at risk. He also seized the opportunity to attack the US air raid on Syrian positions in Lebanon, calling it "bandit action".

The problem for the organizers of such press conferences is that Western correspondents are undisciplined, and persistently ask awkward questions. Queried about the state of President Andropov's health, and as to whether he was recovering from a serious operation, to account for his non-appearance for 110 days, Mr Leonid Zamyatin angrily repeated the official line that the Soviet leader, who has not been seen in public since mid-August, had been suffering from a cold, but was now able to deal with the main matters of government.

While earlier press conferences, such as that held in April by the Foreign Minister and Politburo member Andrei Gromyko, were obviously presenting the views of the top party leadership, both this latest session and the September conference on the Korean airliner gave prominence to the military in the person of Marshal Orgakov. But this does not mean that the military are determining foreign policy in the absence of firm leadership by President Andropov. All three leaders at Monday's press conference are members of the party's Central Committee. Marshal Ogarkov is also First Deputy Defence Minister; the Defence Minister himself, Marshal Dimitri Ustinov, is a full member of the ruling Politburo. There is no evidence to suggest that any major divergence exists in the foreign policy aims of party leadership and military command. Both are firmly united in their hostility towards the West.

NGA dispute

From Mr Claud Morris

Sir, Some years ago, in a now forgotten national print dispute, I resigned the chairmanship of the Welsh Newspaper Proprietors' Association rather than lock out my NGA staff and be involved in one of those games of musical chairs that have destroyed many a free newspaper.

In that instance I defended the NGA's right to work with me as a journalist to bring out a paper when we had no local quarrel. Among those who supported my stand at that time were people as diverse as Mr Joe Wade, of the NGA, and the late Lord Kemsley.

When, on December 4, NGA members at the *News of the World* decided to censor an article, I bled, not for Sir Woodrow Wyatt as the concerned journalist and not for the *News of the World*, but for some NGA members who use their temporary muscle to show in this instance not contempt of court, but contempt for journalism.

I hope those who see their path to trade union triumph marked by square white blanks in the free press realise that the union might fail to secure a chair for itself in this game of musical chairs if free trade unionism is one day itself destroyed and the music stops.

Yours faithfully,
CLAUD MORRIS,
15a Lowndes Street, SW1.
December 15.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Safeguarding the homebuyer

From Mr Graham Lee

Sir, In all the argument about the House Buyers Bill one fact is, perhaps, being lost sight of. This is that essentially the whole business of who does conveyancing is about consumer protection.

Whatever the rights or wrongs of the so-called "monopoly" of solicitors in conveyancing matters, the Austin Mitchell Bill is an appalling piece of drafting which, by any objective standard, will substantially and seriously reduce the protection of the consumer – the homebuyer.

What the buyer requires is the *certainty that* the home he is buying will belong to him, with no problems; he is not buying an insurance policy, which is all the Bill provides for.

A recent survey undertaken by MORI (whose Bob Worcester has been described by Austin Mitchell as the "best pollster in the business") for The Law Society reveals that 62 per cent of homebuyers consider the most important thing they want their solicitor to do is conduct the work thoroughly, whilst only 4 per cent think giving the cheap quote is most important.

This, together with the fact, already reported by you, that 87 per cent of recent homebuyers are satisfied with their solicitor's service, demonstrates that Austin Mitchell has got it quite wrong.

A licensed conveyancer under this Bill, which provides for no qualification, training, or test of competence at all, is hardly likely to be able to produce the thorough job the homebuyer wants.

House buyers beware!

Yours faithfully,
GRAHAM LEE, Secretary,
Professional Development Department,
The Law Society,
113 Chancery Lane, WC2.
December 6.

From Mr Paul Randall

Sir, Ms Jane Bradley suggests (December 6) that the public would by protected from negligent licensed conveyancers by the virtue of their being insured on an indemnity basis, but that such insurance would only be obtained on proof of "sound practical experience". If the experience is a prerequisite of the insurance, how is it to be gained?

The title of "solicitor" is not easily come by and the cost to practitioners of their indemnity policy is far from inconsiderable.

Yours faithfully,
PAUL RANDALL,
31 Avon Road,
Sunbury-on-Thames,
Middlesex.
December 6.

The Severn barrier

From Mr C. K. Haswell

Sir, The letters of Mr Richard Cottrell (November 19) and Dr Geoffrey Kellaway (November 25) relating to the crossing of the Severn estuary merit correction in the context of the two existing driven tunnel links.

The first, constructed between 1873 and 1886, was the original Severn tunnel, providing a rail link between England and Wales. It was a great feat of engineering, carried out in the foreknowledge that it was no easy task. Indeed, it remains arguably Britain's most celebrated tunnel, only second to Brunel's famous first crossing beneath the Thames. Today technical advance has made the means of tunnelling more effective.

The second Severn tunnel, which crosses below the present bridge, is the CEGB power-cable link. My firm acted as the consulting engineers responsible for the project and I can assure Dr Kellaway that one of the most comprehensive geotechnical investigations of its kind took place.

An extract from my paper, read to the Institution of Civil Engineers in 1973, stated:

In that the tunnelling works were considered to be a difficult task from the inception of the project it is considered that, in the context of the exploratory data, the correct decisions on choice of parameters were taken. Further, it is considered the methods of attack (construction) employed resulted in completion of the tunnel successfully with due regard to the important aspect of safety.

To say, as does Mr Cottrell, that "The history of true tunnelling in the Severn grounds is not a happy one" is untenable. Further, to place the problems encountered in the construction of the CEGB tunnel in the same category as those met in the earlier tunnel is totally incorrect.

A third Severn tunnel is perfectly feasible.

Yours faithfully,
C. K. HASWELL,
Charles Haswell and Partners,
Consulting Engineers,
99 Great Russell Street, WC1.
November 28.

Credit where it's due

From the Secretary of the Association of Consulting Engineers

Sir, Your front page report (November 25) about UK export performance is as cogent as ever. But is it not time that you altered your conventional examples for "invisibles"?

British consulting engineers have recently been credited with invisible earnings at the rate of some £565m per year, an average of £47m per month. That the UK had a net invisible surplus of £160m in October must be due in considerable part to the contribution of consulting engineers.

Do we not deserve an occasional mention?

Yours faithfully,
P. J. M. PELLEREAU, Secretary,
The Association of Consulting Engineers,
Alliance House,
12 Caxton Street, SW1.
November 28.

US policy in Central America

From the US Representative to the Organization of American States

Sir, I would like to respond to a letter that appeared in your paper on November 30 concerning the "growing threat in Central America".

Central America is troubled. My Government welcomes positive European engagement in the search for solutions to the region's problems. We would welcome as well an effort by Europeans to understand what we are trying to do and why.

First, we are providing a great deal more economic than security assistance to the region and we have offered the nations of Central America and the Caribbean guaranteed duty-free access to our market through the President's Caribbean basin initiative.

Second, we are encouraging all of the nations in the region to broaden democracy and respect for human rights which must be the keystones to social and regional peace. We have made clear that we are troubled by abuses in El Salvador. Nonetheless, in the midst of turmoil, El Salvador held an election in 1982 where 80 per cent of the population voted despite threats from the guerrillas with "Vote today, die tonight". Now El Salvador has fixed a date for presidential elections in March, 1984.

Third, we seek an environment in which nations of the area can engage in reforms without the fear that outsiders will take advantage to promote subversion and violence. Protection is needed and we are helping to provide a shield for these vulnerable societies.

Finally, we support wholeheartedly the Contadora peace process, which offers the best hope for a regional solution.

As to Nicaragua's role in the region, it should be recalled that in July of 1979 the OAS cooperated with a broad segment of Nicaraguans to ease the replacement of the Somoza regime. This was an unprecedented step by the OAS and, as part of the process, the Sandinista commandantes formally pledged that they would take measures leading to political democracy, economic freedom, and international non-alignment.

The United States welcomed these promises and consistently sought to work with the leaders of Nicaragua, by providing economic assistance and through negotiation.

Yet, instead of good faith negotiations, instead of a verified termination of the export of subversion, instead of fair political competition through elections open to all groups, Nicaragua is characterized today by swollen military forces, pressure on those who do not support enthusiastically the regime, controls on trade union activities, persecution of the minority Miskito Indian population, censorship of the one remaining independent newspaper, closure of radio stations, disregard for religious freedom, continuing support for guerrilla subversion in neighboring countries, and the presence of some 11,000 security and other personnel from Cuba and the Soviet block.

Despite all of these negative developments and the unease they engender we would welcome efforts by the Sandinista leaders to make good their promises to the OAS. To this end, I wish to reaffirm to your readers, that the United States is working with the Contadora nations to help convert broad agreement on principle into reality.

Sincerely,
J. W. MIDDENDORF,
US Representative to the Organization of American States,
As from: Department of State,
Washington, DC,
USA.
December 1.

Prosecution by stores

From Ms Vivien Stern

Sir, Baroness Phillips suggests (November 24) that the Recorder's comments in the recent case where a 77-year-old woman was prosecuted for shoplifting have encouraged the notion that stores like Woolworth's do not deserve the protection of the law against theft of their goods.

This is simply nonsense. Stores, like anyone else, have the right to legal protection against theft; but shoplifting cases range from those involving organized gangs of shoplifters to cases of muddled shoppers, often elderly, who remove goods without a clear intention to steal.

If those in the latter category are to be spared the stigma of a prosecution and court appearance for a crime they have not committed an attempt must be made to distinguish them from deliberate shoplifters.

Even where the theft is deliberate in some cases a police caution – official or informal – may be all that is needed, particularly where the offender is of previous good character and a store's layout designed to encourage impulse buying has encouraged impulse shoplifting.

It is absurd to suggest that the best interests of criminal justice are served by prosecuting all alleged shoplifters regardless of age, physical or mental condition, and the existence of a real possibility that a mistake has been made; and stores should not expect the public purse to pay the cost of such prosecutions.

A requirement that they pay costs and perhaps damages when such cases are lost, combined with trenchant public comments of the kind made by the Recorder in this case, might lead to their adopting more reasonable and sensitive policies.

Yours faithfully,
VIVIEN STERN, Director,
National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders,
169 Clapham Road, SW9.
November 28.

Fatal statistics

From Dr Trevor Smith

Sir, In stating in your editorial today (November 25) that smoking kills 40 times as many men as road accidents you greatly underestimate the significance of road accidents as a course of premature death.

If all of the people killed or seriously injured on British roads during the 1970s were laid end to end they would stretch from London to Edinburgh and back again. In addition, for every serious injury there were three or four minor injuries.

In 1981, 5,840 people were killed, over 77,000 seriously injured, while 236,000 received minor injuries.

Horrific as these figures are they still fail to reveal the true impact of road accidents as a cause of death. To appreciate this fully we must consider not simply the number of people killed, but the age at which they die. If we assume a life expectancy of 75 years and compare the number of years of life expectancy lost from the various causes then a more realistic picture emerges.

Thus in a single year, lung cancer claimed 38,300 lives, five times as many as the 6,831 lost in road accidents. It would appear at first sight therefore that lung cancer is by far the greater problem, but in terms of loss of life expectancy there is not a great deal to choose between the two – lung cancer deprived the population of 312,000 years of life expectancy, road accidents 255,000 years.

In Britain road accidents are by far the major killer of those under 35. In 1980, 3,280 people under the age of 35 died as a result of road accidents, while cancer of all kinds claimed 2,507 lives and diseases of the heart and circulatory system 1,299 lives.

Smoking is certainly the major cause of premature death in Britain today, but road accidents come a very close second.

Yours sincerely,
TREVOR SMITH
97 Grieve Street,
Dunfermline,
Fife.
November 25.

Nuclear metaphor

From the Right Reverend Trevor Huddleston, CR

Sir, The Minister of Defence is quoted today (feature, December 2) as saying: "... the seamless robe of deterrence exists." Whatever the force of Mr Heseltine's argument for the use of more and more hideous nuclear weapons in the name of peace, he might at least respect the susceptibilities of Christians in his use of metaphor. For us there is only one "seamless robe" of significance. It was that one taken from the crucified Christ by the soldiers with the words, "Let us not tear it but cast lots for it to see whose it shall be".

It is hard to think of a more blasphemous comparison than that between the seamless robe of Christ at the moment of his supreme self-giving for the salvation of mankind and the horror of cruise and Pershing and all the other weapons of our day.

If the minister desires an appropriate metaphor I suggest he uses that phrase from St Mark's gospel: "The abomination of desolation standing where it ought not."

Yours faithfully,
†TREVOR HUDDLESTON,
House of the Resurrection,
Mirfield, West Yorkshire.

Way of the Cross

From the Reverend G. Thompson Brake

Sir, It seems to suit some churchmen to resurrect the dichotomy between "personal" and "public" Christianity. In particular there is a disposition to associate "individual" or "personal" faith with a Tory philosophy of individual enterprise and achievement and then conclude that only a radical social religion has true validity.

One result of this is the adoption of political socialism and the attachment of "radical" insights of the faith to give it a quasi-theological content. Thus the dichotomy is perpetuated, not by those whose emphasis is on personal faith, but by those who are left-handed.

The Methodist Church, in which I am a minister, is widely acknowledged for its concern with social issues. Its founder, John Wesley, said: "Christianity is essentially a social religion and to turn it into a solitary one is to destroy it". That's a useful text for the critics of your leading article to latch on to.

However, John Wesley's social concerns arose out of personal faith. "You have nothing to do but save souls", he said. That, he believed, was man's fundamental need. This conviction arose out of the sense that his own soul needed saving. It was his personal experience of salvation which came to him on May 24, 1738, at Aldersgate Street which proved to be the motivation of his entire ministry.

The societies he formed were not "pressure groups" for social action, but the means whereby personal faith was nurtured to maturity. If there is one lesson to be learnt from the eighteenth century evangelical revival and social reformation it is that public faith springs from personal faith.

If it was true then, when social conditions called for radical measures, is it not true today?

Yours faithfully,
G. THOMPSON BRAKE,
Superintendent Minister,
The Methodist Church,
London (Ilford) Circuit,
19 Bethell Avenue,
Ilford,
Essex.
November 24.

Hope for young unemployed

From Mr Ray Hurst

Sir, Although Francis Pym (feature, December 1) is justified in referring to the "economically wasteful" and "humanly damaging" effects of unemployment, it is the "socially divisive" aspects of the problem which he emphasised which must be of the greatest concern.

Unemployed young people in particular, especially those experiencing long-term unemployment, react to their despairing situation by becoming apathetic and complacent and allowing themselves to drift into a sense of total hopelessness. This is not generally reflected by spontaneous and aggressive anti-social behaviour on the streets (although it is important not to ignore the rise in the number of burglaries and the relatively large number of those aged under 24 among those whose crime is detected).

Although the new Youth Training Scheme has been generally welcomed and supported by those involved in assisting unemployed young people, the fact should not be ignored that there are currently over 400,000 unemployed teenagers aged 18/19 years who are not eligible for entry to the scheme. Also, the published unemployment statistics do not divulge the total number of those waiting to enter their first real job. If those in Government special schemes are included, the numbers currently in this category must be about 750,000, at least.

Society still attaches a stigma to long-term unemployment. In the eyes of too many employers the longer a person is unemployed the more unemployable they become. The Government must make strenuous efforts to provide more paid employment for those young people still waiting for their first opportunity of employment.

The recent reluctant decision of the Manpower Services Commission, because of financial constraints, to curtail recruitment to the Community Programme, a much-needed scheme for the long-term unemployed, is to be deplored. The allocation of more resources to schemes of this kind should not be based solely on grounds of compassion but because it would be investment in sound common sense, considering the alternatives.

Yours faithfully,
RAY HURST,
Honorary Secretary,
The Institute of Careers Officers,
Careers Office,
Fry Street,
Middlesbrough,
Cleveland.
December 6.

From Mr I. J. Woolf

Sir, In America they talk about "getting back to work". In Britain we talk about "creating jobs".

Is there a moral in here somewhere?

Yours sincerely,
I. J. WOOLF,
Special Forces Club,
8 Herbert Crescent, SW1.
December 6.

Restriction on parole

From Sir David Davenport-Handley

Sir, As an admirer of the work of Dr Julian Candy I was sad to see that he had found it necessary to resign from the Parole Board, of which I am a member.

He says in his letter to you of November 22 that his views are shared "in whole or in part by very many of his colleagues". I am not one of them.

I strongly believe that the Home Secretary of the day had the right to change the parole restrictions. He is exercising a statutory discretion and if it is a political decision that also is his right, and indeed duty, reflecting as it does the clear mandate received in June to provide greater protection for the public.

Of course, one would expect all cases to be referred to the board, as in the past, and not, as suggested by Lord Hunt in his letter (November 30) only those selected by the Home Office.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID DAVENPORT-HANDLEY,
Clipsham Hall,
Oakham,
Rutland.

Winged chariot

From Dr W. I. Pumphrey

Sir, I would like to thank your many correspondents for their replies to my letter (November 12) on minimum time intervals and for their wide-ranging observation of areas where there may be intervals even smaller than I had envisaged.

I was especially interested in the negative time concept proposed by Mr Christopher Fagg (November 17) since the possible existence of such time intervals had escaped my notice. He is entirely correct, of course. They do exist and I now realize that he has formalized a saying of my mother that "someone had picked her up before she had fallen down", although she was referring not to buses moving slightly faster than the speed of thought but to our local grocer, who invariably wrote to her about the state of her account when she was still debating the size of her next order.

It seems to me entirely appropriate to call the basic unit of time a "Hume", as proposed by Mr Alpin (November 21) since it is clear that a "Hume" can be negative as well as positive. I only wish I had had a "Hume" by me in my university days, when I invariably had to echo the words of Hobart Brown, "Backward, turn backward, O time in your flight and tell me just one thing I studied last night".

Yours faithfully,
W. I. PUMPHREY,
28 Fitzwilliam House,
The Little Green,
Richmond, Surrey.
December 1.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
December 7: The Right Hon Margaret Thatcher, MP (Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury) had an audience of The Queen this evening.

The Queen, Colonel-in-Chief, Royal Tank Regiment, honoured the Officers of the Regiment with her presence at dinner this evening at Merchant Taylors' Hall.

Her Majesty was received on arrival by Major-General Roy Dixon (Representative Colonel Commandant), Major-General I. H. Baker (Colonel Commandant) and Major-General R. M. Jerram (Colonel Commandant).

The Duchess of Grafton, Sir William Heseltine and Major Hugh Lindsay were in attendance.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, Patron of the Royal Tournament, was present this evening at a Reception at St James's Palace to launch the Royal Tournament of 1984 (Chairman, Major-General James Eyre).

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, Commandant-in-Chief, St John Ambulance and Nursing Cadets, and Captain Mark Phillips, this evening attended the St John Gala Ball at the Inter-Continental Hotel, London, W.1.

The Countess of Lichfield was in attendance.

CLARENCE HOUSE
December 7: Colonel A. Niekirk today had the honour of being received by Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, Honorary Colonel, The London Scottish, upon relinquishing his appointment as Colonel of the Regiment.

Colonel J. A. D. Anderson also had the honour of being received by Her Majesty upon assuming his appointment as Colonel of The London Scottish Regiment.

Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, a Master of the Middle Temple, was pleased to dine with her fellow Benchers at the Middle Temple this evening.

The Lady Grimthorpe and Sir Martin Gilliat were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
December 7: The Prince of Wales arrived at Newcastle upon Tyne Station in the Royal Train this morning.

His Royal Highness subsequently toured and opened Moorside Community School.

The Prince of Wales, President, the Wildfowl Trust, this afternoon visited Washington Waterfowl Park, Washington, Sunderland.

His Royal Highness, Honorary Commodore, Her Majesty's Coastguard, later opened H.M. Coastguard's Maritime Rescue Co-ordination Sub-Centre at Tynemouth.

The Prince of Wales, attended by Major David Bromhead, returned to London in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

The Prince of Wales and The Princess of Wales, Patron of the Welsh National Opera, this evening attended a performance of Carmen given by the Welsh National Opera at the Dominion Theatre, London, W1.

Mrs George West, Major David Bromhead and Mr Victor Chapman were in attendance.

The Princess of Wales this morning visited The Queen Elizabeth II Silver Jubilee Activities Centre, Burseldon, Hampshire.

Her Royal Highness, attended by Miss Anne Beckwith-Smith and Lieutenant-Commander Peter Eberle, RN, travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

KENSINGTON PALACE
December 7: The Duke of Gloucester, as President, this afternoon attended the Annual General Meeting of the Royal Smithfield Club at Earls Court Exhibition Centre, London.

Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Simon Bland was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE,
ST JAMES'S PALACE
December 7: The Duke of Kent, as President of the Football Association, today attended the 100th Association Football Match between the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge at Wembley Stadium.

Captain Stewart was in attendance.

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Mr Eric Price Holmes will be held at St Margaret's, Westminster, at noon today.

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Mr Peter Arne will be held at St Paul's, Covent Garden, at noon today.

Luncheons

Law Society
The president of the Law Society, Mr Christopher Hewetson, was host at a luncheon at 60 Carey Street, yesterday. Among those present:
[illegible]

National Maritime Museum
The Hon Anthony Cayzer, Chairman of the Trustees of the National Maritime Museum, was host at the inaugural luncheon for the Finnish exhibition committee of honour at Greenwich yesterday. This committee has been set up in support of the Maritime Finland Exhibition being held at the National Maritime Museum in 1985.

Among those present were:
[illegible]

Reception

Diplomatic Neighbours
The Diplomatic Service Wives Association and Diplomatic Neighbours held their annual reception for the ladies of the Diplomatic Corps at Lancaster House yesterday. The guests were received by Lady Howe, Honorary President of the Diplomatic Service Wives Association, Lady Acland, president, Mrs Jane Reid, chairman, and Mrs June Summerhayes, Chairman of Diplomatic Neighbours. The guests of honour were Lady Richards, Mrs Malcolm Rifkind, Mrs Richard Luce and Mrs Raymond Whitney.

Dinners

Weavers' Company:
The Lord Mayor, Mr Alderman and Sheriff R. C. L. Charvet and Mr Sheriff R. C. A. FitzGerald, were present on Monday night at the livery dinner of the Weavers' Company held at Vintners' Hall and were received with the other guests by the Upper Bailiff, Mr Stephen D. Graves, and other officers of the company. The Lord Mayor replied to the civic toast proposed by the Upper Bailiff. The toast of the guests was proposed by the Upper Warden, Mr J. G. Y. Radcliffe, and the response was made by the Bishop of Rochester.

The musical entertainment after dinner was provided by Janiculum.

Canning House
Sir Peter Macadam, President of the Hispanic and Luso Brazilian Council, was host at a dinner given last night at the Hyde Park Hotel in honour of Ambassadors and Heads of Mission of Latin America, Spain and Portugal. The guest of honour was Earl Jellicoe, Chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board.

Others present included:
Viscount Montgomery of Alamein, Sir Leslie Bowes, Sir Jasper Hollom, Sir Duncan Oppenheim, Sir Malcolm Wilcox, members of the executive committee and of the Latin American Trade Advisory Group at Canning House.

Association of British Chambers of Commerce
The Economic and Industrial Committee of the Association of British Chambers of Commerce entertained Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, at dinner last night at the Café Royal. Mr J. G. Ackers was in the chair.

British Museum
Lord Trend, Chairman of the Trustees of the British Museum, gave a dinner last night at the British Museum in honour of Lord Hartwell, on the occasion of the inauguration of the Pamela Hartwell Room.

Others present included:
[illegible]

Charterhouse
Charterhouse Founder's Day dinner was held last night at Charterhouse. The speakers were the Master of Charterhouse, Mr Oliver Van Oss, the headmaster, Mr Peter Attenborough, Sir George Labouchere and Mr H. Boyd-Carpenter.

Coningsby Club
The Coningsby Club entertained Viscount Whitelaw, CH, at dinner last night at the Carlton Club. Mr Andrew Mitchell presided.

City Livery Club
The Lord Mayor and Sir John Donaldson, accompanied by the Sheriffs and their ladies, were present at the annual dinner of the City Livery Club held last night at Guildhall. Mr Jack Neary, accompanied by Mrs Neary, presided and the other speakers were the Lord Mayor, the President of Sion College, Sir Monty Finniston, Mr Alderman David Rowe-Ham and Sir Oliver Chesterton.

Others present included:
Lord Carnock, the Admiral President of the Royal Naval College Greenwich and Lady Cassels, the Recorder of London and Lady Miskin, Lady Chesterton, Lady Finniston, Lady Norton, Sir Kenneth and Lady Cork, Sir William and Lady Shapland, Sir Charles and Lady Trinder, Sir Henry and Lady Phillips, Sir William and Lady Harris, the Agent-General for Alberta, the Master of the Company of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators and Dr L W G Tutt, the Commissioner of Police for the City of London, the Master Cutler in Hallamshire, the Master of the Merchants of the City of Edinburgh, the Master of the Guild of Freemen of the City of London, the President of the United Wards Club, the Deacon Convener of the Trades House of Glasgow; the Prime Warden of the Basketmakers' Company, and the Masters of the Glovers', Tobacco Pipe Makers' and Tobacco Blenders', Fruiterers' and Builders Merchants' Companies, Mr F Ashe Lincoln, QC, Mr Neville Rayner, aldermen and common councilmen, Officers of the Corporation of London and their ladies.

Service dinner

Leicestershire and Derbyshire Yeomanry
The annual dinner of the Leicestershire and Derbyshire (Prince Albert's Own) Yeomanry was held last night at the Cavalry and Guards Club. Colonel P. T. S. Bowlby presided.

Birthdays today

Mr Sammy Davis, Jr, 58; Lord Diplock, 76; Mr Lucian Freud, CH, 61; Mr James Galway, 44; Mr Maurice Green, 77; Lord Prys-Davies, 60; Sir Arthur Rymill, 76; Mr Maximilian Schell, 53; Dr Sir Alan Stewart, 66; Sir John Storrar, 92; Mr Michael Unger, 40; Sir William Wood, 67.

Latest wills

Mr Frank Henry Biddle, of Epping, Essex, left estate valued at £1,018,025 net.

Forthcoming marriages

**Mr J. Palmer
and Lady Laura Elliot**
The engagement is announced between John, younger son of Mr and Mrs William Palmer, and Laura, daughter of the Earl of Minto and Lady Caroline Ogilvy.

**Mr J. C. Coke
and Miss J. C. Elkins**
The engagement is announced between John, son of Mrs Jean Coke and the late Mr Charles Coke, of Nottingham, and Jayne, daughter of Mr and Mrs Derek Elkins, of Pinner, Middlesex.

**Mr P. B. R. Coldstream
and Miss A. N. Perry**
The engagement is announced between Benedict, second son of Patrick Coldstream, of Islington, London, and Jennifer Rowntree, of Middleton Stoney, Oxfordshire, and Alison, only daughter of Norma Perry, of Oxford, and the late Tony Perry.

**Mr J. Dean
and Miss J. S. B. Currie**
The engagement is announced between John, only son of Mr and Mrs N. Dean, of Manchester, Lancashire, and Juliette, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. M. B. Currie, of Kensington, London.

**Mr S. L. Heap
and Mrs H. A. Hunter**
The forthcoming marriage is announced from Cambridge between Simon, son of Mr and Mrs Alan Heap, and Hilary Ann, daughter of Mr and Mrs Winfield Chislett, of The Fort St George In England, Cambridge.

**Mr R. M. Kemp
and Miss M. E. Aldhous**
The engagement is announced between Richard Mark, only son of Mr and Mrs L. Kemp, of Dulwich, and Margaret Elizabeth, second daughter of Mr and Mrs J. R. Aldhous, of Bath.

**Mr S. Kenney
and Miss R. A. McClain**
The engagement is announced between Scott, son of Mr and Mrs D. Kenney, of Atlanta, Georgia, and Rebbeca, eldest daughter of the Rev F. M. and Mrs McClain, of Winnetka, Illinois.

**Mr N. S. Mann
and Miss K. B. Jones**
The engagement is announced between Nicholas, younger son of Dr and Mrs James Mann, of Dulwich, and Katharine, younger daughter of the late Mr David Prys Jones and of Mrs Prys Jones, of Croydon.

**Mr G. N. Music
and Miss C. M. Bruce**
The engagement is announced between Gregory, youngest son of Mr Bertram Music and the late Iris Music, and Candida, younger daughter of Dr and Mrs Arnold Bruce.

**Mr A. Spalas
and Miss J. Smith**
The engagement is announced between Anastasios, younger son of Mr and Mrs T. Spalas, of Kyparissias, Greece, and Judy, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter D. Smith, currently of Trearddur Bay, Anglesey, North Wales.

**Mr M. A. H. Stimpfig
and Miss C. D. E. Wethered**
The engagement is announced between Mark Andrew Haig, elder son of Mr and Mrs Frederick Stimpfig, of Wilmslow, Cheshire, and Clemency Diana Elizabeth, daughter of Mr and Mrs Anthony Wethered, of Northend Common, Oxfordshire.

**Mr M. Williams
and Miss J. Rockwell**
The engagement is announced between Mark, son of Mr and Mrs J. M. Williams, of Budock, Cornwall, and Judy, daughter of Mr and Mrs H. Rockwell, of Pinner, Middlesex.

Marriage

**Mr D. J. P. O'Neil
and Miss A. C. Tennant**
The marriage took place on Wednesday, December 7, in the private chapel at Vaynol Hall, Bangor, Gwynedd, between Mr Denis O'Neil, eldest son of the late Mr Leslie O'Neil and of Mrs O'Neil, of Sydney, Australia, and Miss Charlotte Tennant, daughter of Mr Andrew Tennant, of Muiresk, Aberdeenshire, and Mrs Oliver Steel, of Winterbourne Holt, Newbury, Berkshire.



Say cheese: Mr Neville Brigginshaw, aged 92, an In-pensioner at the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, cutting the first of a selection of cheeses presented to the hospital by the English Country Cheese Council yesterday, assisted by (from left) Mr Albert Green, Master cook; Debby Hulme, the National Dairy Queen; and General Sir Robert Ford, governor of the hospital (Photograph: Suresh Karadia).

Church news

Appointments
The Bishop of Portsmouth, the Rt Rev Ronald Gordon, to be chief of staff to the Archbishop of Canterbury at Lambeth Palace, from next May, in succession to the Right Rev Ross Hook.

The Rev J Atkins, Rector of Baldock with Bygrave, diocese of St Albans to be also Rural Dean of the Stevenage Deanery, same diocese.
The Rev K A Bailey, Vicar of St Peter's, Southsea, diocese of Portsmouth, to be Vicar of St Alban's, Copnor, same diocese.
The Right Rev J G H Baker, formerly Bishop of Hongkong, to be assistant Bishop, diocese of Guildford.
The Rev D I Barnes, further education project officer, diocese of London, to be priest-in-charge of Holy Trinity, Southall, same diocese.
The Rev G D Bottoms, team vicar, parish of St Cecilia's, Parsons Cross, Sheffield, diocese of Sheffield, to be Vicar of St Mary Magdalene, Alsager, diocese of Chester.
The Rev M J Bridger, team vicar of St Alban's, Goseops Green, diocese of Chichester, to be priest-in-charge of United Parish of Brentford, diocese of London.
The Rev R C Davies, Chaplain to the Forces (Army), to be team vicar, Halesworth team ministry, diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich.
The Rev P H C Dickens, curate of Headley Bordon, diocese of Guildford, to be Vicar of Wrecclesham, same diocese.
The Rev P W J Folks, vicar of St Augustine's, Leicester, diocese of Leicester, to be Vicar of Whetstone, same diocese.
The Rev B V Gauge, permission to officiate, diocese of Chester, to be Vicar of St James's with St Bede's, Birkenhead, same diocese.
The Rev N H Gerrans, curate of Bicester group ministry, diocese of Oxford, to be Chaplain, Queen Alexandra Hospital, Cosham, diocese of Portsmouth.
The Revd J W Haywood, Vicar of Clifton, Workington, diocese of Carlisle, to be priest-in-charge of St James's, Barrow-in-Furness, same diocese.
The Rev G Hirst, senior industrial chaplain with the Lancashire Industrial Mission and priest-in-charge of Treales, diocese of Blackburn; to be also an honorary canon of Blackburn Cathedral, same diocese.
The Rev R W Jackson, curate of Fulwood, Sheffield, diocese of Sheffield, to be Vicar of Grenoside, same diocese.
The Rev R J Jones, priest-in-charge of St Peter's with St Martin's, Edmonton, diocese of London, to be Vicar of St Alban's, North Harrow, same diocese.
The Rev M B Kennaway, Rector of Cardynham and Warleggan and priest-in-charge of Helland, diocese of Truro, to be also an honorary canon of Truro Cathedral, same diocese.
The Rev A K Killock, an honorary curate, diocese of Bradford, to be priest-in-charge of Oakenshaw cum Woodlands, same diocese.
The Rev W T S Moore, honorary curate of St John the Baptist, Sheffield, diocese of Portsmouth, to be Chaplain to the Countess Mountbatten House, West End, Southampton, diocese of Winchester.
The Rev A B Morton, acting priest-in-charge of Stanton Prior and Marksbury, and formerly Chaplain and secretary of Partis College, Bath, diocese of Bath and Wells, to be Vicar of Melling with Tatham, diocese of Blackburn.
The Rev G Murfet, priest-in-charge of St Milford's, diocese of York, to be Vicar of Kirkby Ireleth, diocese of Carlisle.
The Rev K J Pritchard, Vicar of St John the Evangelist, Weston, Runcorn, diocese of Chester, to be Vicar of St John the Baptist, Great Meols, Wirral, same diocese.
The Rev W Riley, Rector of Tarleton, diocese of Blackburn, to be also Rural Dean of Leyland Deanery, same diocese.
The Rev H I L Russell, Vicar of St Jude's, Nottingham, diocese of Southwell, to be also assistant Rural Dean of Nottingham, same diocese.
Canon W R G Sargent, Vicar of St Mark's, North End, diocese of Portsmouth, to be also Rural Dean of Portsmouth, same diocese.
The Rev B Selvey, Vicar of Cleveleys and general secretary of the Board for Mission and Unity, diocese of Blackburn, to be chairman of the Board for Mission and Unity, same diocese.
The Rev M J Sheffield, curate of St George's, Waterlooville, diocese of Portsmouth, to be curate of Holy Trinity and All Saints, Ryde, same diocese.

John Copley's "Portrait of Mrs Thomas Gage"

Masterpiece to be sold by tender

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

Agnew's, the Bond Street dealers, are experimenting with a new way of selling a masterpiece by inviting interested museums and collectors to tender for John Singleton Copley's "Portrait of Mrs Thomas Gage". Copley is a great American painter of the eighteenth century whose career began in America and flowered in London. Nowadays it is his early American portraits that are the real moneyspinners. Mrs Gage is one.

It is being insured for £1m and, in the present buoyant market for American art, could eventually sell for several million pounds.

Agnew's are acting on behalf of the present Viscount Gage. The painting was commissioned in 1771 and has descended in the family where its identity and importance were long lost sight of until the recent resurgence of scholarly interest in the American school. It comes from the important collection of pictures at Firle Place in Sussex, the family home. The sale of the picture is for the purpose of establishing a maintenance fund for the house and follows the death of the sixth Viscount in 1982.

The painting is to be exibited in the United States for the first time from January 17 to 29 at the National Academy of Design in New York. It then returns to London for exhibition at Agnew's from February 9 to 24. Offers must be submitted to Agnew's by noon on February 24.

The picture will need an export licence before it can leave the country. Mr Evelyn Joll, chairman of Agnew's, said yesterday that the firm had held discussions on the matter and come to the conclusion that the authorities were likely to see the picture as primarily of American interest

Copley painted the picture in New York in 1771, where he had gone from Boston to make his fortune. The sitter, Margaret Gage, was the American-born wife of Sir Thomas Gage, who was Commander-in-Chief of the British forces in America and later Governor of Massachusetts from 1774-1775.

The picture is a pendant to the portrait of Sir Thomas Gage painted in 1768-69. It left the Gage family before the last war and turned up on the New York market in 1971 when it sold for $210,000; it now belongs to the Paul Mellon collection of British art at Yale. That price was established before the recent boom in American picture prices. The highest auction price on record for an American painting is $2,500,000 but a Morse is said to have been sold privately for $3,250,000.

Science report

Space shuttle tests may invalidate ear theory

Houston
A Nobel prize-winning theory about the physiology of the inner ear was shaken on Tuesday by a test conducted by scientists aboard the space shuttle Columbia. The discovery about the inner ear study was a sidelight to research into the broader issue of the human body's adaptation to space.

The finding, which came in the flickering of a crew member's eye, was made as the Columbia was in its eighth day of flight. When warm air and then cold air were injected into the ears of Dr Ulf Merbold, the first European crewman on the shuttle, his eyes flicked in the direction of the source of the changed temperature. They should not have done so in space, if the theory that explains why a standard ear-problem test works was correct.

The theory that is now being disputed was the basic explanation for the effectiveness of a common clinical test used in diagnosing the dizziness caused by a malfunctioning inner ear. In the test, the doctor applies warm water to one ear and then cool water to the other ear and observes eye movements that indicate the inner ear's response. People with the malfunction tend not to respond.

Dr Rudolf von Baumgarten, the designer of the experiment, explained that the theory about the response, known as the Barany effect, held that the thermal stimulus created convective currents in the fluid of the inner ear's semicircular canal. These currents were believed to make the body think it was moving in one direction or another, thus causing the ear's balance-controlling vestibular organs to react accordingly. If they did not, doctors took this as a sign that defects in the organs were probably responsible for the bout of dizziness.

The reason the spacelab scientist's eyes should not have flicked if the theory was correct is that in the weightlessness of space there should be no thermal convection; hence no such convective currents in the semicircular canal.

Dr Robert Barany of Sweden developed the hypothesis in 1906 and was rewarded with the Nobel prize in medicine and physiology in 1914. The theory had been widely accepted ever since.

Dr von Baumgarten emphasized that the new findings did not question the effectiveness of these clinical tests, only the explanation of why they work.

Source: New York Times

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include:
Mr Donald Elliot, Deputy Chief Constable of Greater Manchester to be Chief Constable of Devon and Cornwall, in succession to Mr David East.
Mr N. A. C. Bell, aged 45, until recently Finance Director of Plessey Telecommunications Ltd, to be finance director at under-secretary level of the Royal Ordnance Factories Organization.

University news

Loughborough
Honorary degrees are to be conferred upon the following next year:
D Tech: Sir Edward Parkes, Vice-Chancellor, Leeds University.
D Litt: Lord Trend, visitor to the university.

OBITUARY

MURIEL ST CLARE BYRNE
Editor of 'The Lisle Letters'

Miss Muriel St Clare Byrne, OBE, FSA, who died on December 2 at the age of 88, was a writer and, for over 30 years, lecturer at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art as well as being an extra-mural university lecturer. But she will be best remembered for her massive edition of *The Lisle Letters*, which were published after almost 50 years work on them on her part, in 1981.

The Lisle Letters were the private and public correspondent of Arthur Plantagenet, Lord Lisle, who was Lord Deputy of Calais from 1533 to 1540, and as such provide rich insights into the world of intrigue surrounding the Court of Henry VIII as well as retailing a wealth of domestic detail and tittle-tattle which contributes much to our knowledge of the life of the era.

They owed their survival to the fact that they were impounded on the arrest of Lord Lisle in 1540, and their seeing the light of day in Miss Byrne's edition, to her remarkable labours. She herself regarded them as "the lost moment that was Tudor England".

Born in May 1895 Muriel St Clare Byrne went to school in Liverpool and took her degree at Somerville College, Oxford. After the First World War, during the latter stages of which she was an Army Education lecturer at Rouen, she was an Extension Lecturer for nearly 20 years at Oxford and London Universities. From 1923 to 1955 she was a lecturer at RADA.

She also wrote many popular works on historical and literary subjects and her *Elizabethan Life in Town and Country* (1925) went through eight editions and was widely translated. *The Elizabethan Home* (1925), *The Elizabethan Zoo* (1926) and a selection of the letters of Henry VIII which she edited, were also popular.

But what was to become the central preoccupation of her life gripped her from 1932 when she read her first Lisle letter among the 18 volumes of 'State Papers 3' at the Public Records Office, where she had been researching for her Henry VIII letters.

As she was to say in later years, she arranged the rest of her life round the task of bringing the letters, a few of which had been published in Victorian times, to the light of day as a substantial collection.

At first she had CUP in mind as a publisher but with slow progress only, being made, an autobiography *Common or Garden Child* which she had published with Faber, turned her thoughts towards that firm, where T. S. Eliot, then a director, encouraged her. In the upshot the task proved too gigantic even for his, and Faber's enthusiasms and finally her manuscript was flown across the Atlantic where it was eventually published by the Chicago Press.

Vast though the edition was, it was still a selection, comprising 1,700 of the 3,000 surviving letters. But it did shed light on a number of interesting problems, in particular solving the riddle of the downfall of Cromwell whose eclipse, so the letters revealed, stemmed directly from his own attempt to discredit Lisle on a charge of treason, he being overwhelmed in the furore generated by himself.

The letters must take their place alongside the Paston Letters as irradiating their period much as that collection did for the late Middle Ages.

Besides her many books Miss Byrne also wrote, with her friend Dorothy L. Sayers, a play, *Busman's Honeymoon*. She was appointed OBE in 1955 and elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries in 1964.

MR DIGBY MORTON

Digby Morton, who died in London on December 5 at the age of 77, was a leading fashion designer who made his mark in the 1930s with his traditionally tailored clothes, and who continued to be influential during and after the Second World War.

He was a designer who profited from austerity. His lean, economic tweed suits were surviving symbols of elegance and style in the London of the Blitz. A famous Cecil Beaton photograph of 1941 showed the essential Digby Morton suit against the bombed ruins of the Temple.

Henry Digby Morton was born in Ireland on November 27, 1906. He was trained in Dublin in fine art and architecture, and the architectural principles of tailoring and cutting were hallmarks of his style. He worked for the couture house of Lachasse, and set up on his own in 1930 during the decline of Paris couture in the Depression.

By 1934 he was featured in *Vogue* as an important British design influence, along with Norman Hartnell, Victor Stiebel and Charles Creed.

In 1939, responding to the sombre mood of the times, he opened a ready-to-wear department, and saw his tailor-mades become the fashion uniform of the war years. He himself designed a WVS uniform for Lady Reading in 1939. In 1943, as a member of the Incorporated Society of Fashion Designers, he found himself designing Utility clothing, to which his uncluttered style was well suited.

Dior's New Look of 1947 sounded the all-clear for a return to a different mood of femininity and romance. In 1953 Digby Morton went to work in the United States, where he brought his own standards of tailoring to the Lady Hathaway line of women's shirts.

He returned to this country in 1957, and during the fashion explosion of the 1960s he worked as a designer for the mass manufacture house of Reldan. He later retired to the Cayman Islands, where he was able to pursue his interests in painting, and was active in the Visual Arts Society.

Digby Morton married in 1936 Phyllis Panting, Editor of *Woman and Beauty*, who survives him.

DR JAMES AITKEN

Dr James Macrae Aitken, who died in Cheltenham on December 3, was one of the most talented chess amateurs whom Scotland ever produced.

He was born in Scotland on October 27, 1908. Originally a historian by profession he graduated in that subject at Aberdeen University, going on to gain his doctorate at Oxford with a thesis on the presentation of George Buchanan before the Spanish Inquisition in the 18th century. Buchanan, he argued, achieved the remarkable feat of outarguing the Spanish Inquisitors and thus escaping from their clutches.

When the Second World War came Aitken joined the code-breakers at Bletchley Park and decided to remain at that work in the Foreign Office after the war. He retired some 10 years ago, at the age of 65.

Meanwhile he had also enjoyed a successful career as a chess-player, playing a great deal both nationally and internationally. He won the Scottish Championship 10 times and represented Scotland, for most of his life on a high board, in the Chess Olympiads.

At Stockholm in 1937 he obtained 32.4 per cent on top board, and achieved fame by beating the well-known Swedish grandmaster, Gideon Stahlberg. He had an excellent result at Munich, 1958 where he scored 67.6 per cent on second board. Increasing years inevitably brought a decline in his results: 28.1 per cent on second board at Tel Aviv, 1964 was followed by 38.9 per cent on 6th board at Skopje in 1972.

As a player he had a fine sense of strategy but was probably not deep enough ever to be of real master class. As a person he was of equable temperament with a very pleasant sense of humour.

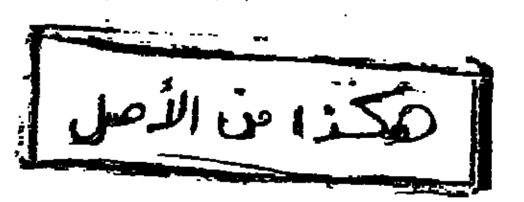
MLLE LUCIENNE BOYER

Lucienne Boyer, the French cabaret singer who became a household name to a generation of devotees through the recording of her song "Parlez-moi d'amour", died in Paris on December 6. She was 80.

A lissom, sensual brunette, Mlle Boyer dominated the cabaret ethos of Montparnasse and Montmartre in the 1930s, generating tremendous enthusiasm in her audiences for her uniquely intimate, sultry style of communicating her material to them.

She had been working in cabaret from the age of 16 and soon became well known to a Parisian clientele, but it was "Parlez-moi d'amour" which projected her to national fame.

She never repeated quite this scale of popularity in subsequent recordings, though "Un Amour comme le nôtre" had its success and "Mon P'tit Kaki" enjoyed a vogue among French troops during the Phoney War period.



THE ARTS

Ballet
Not trying too hard

London Contemporary
Sadler's Wells

Royal Ballet
Covent Garden

Mark Henderson's lighting is the element that most attracts attention to itself during *Canso Trobar* and stays most vividly in the mind afterwards. With its soft glow picking out the bodies (or sometimes only the faces) of the dancers, its patches of shadow, its continual shifting and changing, it is a typical London Contemporary Dance Theatre lighting plot.

Somewhere among all that discreet shifting light there is a ballet trying to get out – but not trying very hard. It has music described puzzlingly as "based on arrangements by Martin Best and realized by Barrington Pheloung". Six players each use from two to four different instruments, including such historic rarities as nackers, rebec, fidele, rota and oud.

It is meant, music and choreography alike, as a modern celebration of the music and ideas of twelfth century troubadors; and the emphasis in that phrase has to be on contemporary, because the poems are interpreted through modern eyes, with little or no sense of their historical context. Fair enough, but it does give a general impression of William Morris wallpapers.

Except for a mopey duet for Anca Frankenhaeuser and Patrick Harding-Irmer, the one concession to courtly love, Christopher Bannerman's choreography is notable most for its energy and jollity. A duet for Anita Griffin and Michael Small, in which he repeatedly bounces over her, and ends up leap-frogging several dancers at once, is the most attractive invention in a work that has more liveliness than Bannerman's earlier productions.

Canso Irobar had its first London performance at Sadler's Wella on Tuesday night together with London Contemporary's first performance of *Carnival*, by Siobhan Davies to Saint-Saëns's music. Philippe Giraudeau has returned as guest to play the role he created last year. His solo to "The Swan" is as remarkable as ever (when Peter Mumford's lighting will let you see it). The dancer becomes both bird and cellist, while maintaining a fascination flow of musically phrased movement.

Giraudeau's Cuckoo, too, is still painfully sad In this revival Giraudeau is way ahead of everyone else, except momentarily Lauren Potter, who replaced Linda Gibbs unannounced.

At Covent Garden on Monday. David Wall danced *Apollo* for the first time. Both in looks and in technique, he would have been better-suited to the waking young god earlier in his career, but he is a fine enough artist to overcome that, if only somebody can teach him the phrasing and emphasis to make the dances mean something.

Raymonda, too, has mostly failed to come to life, despite of the various cast changes, except for one performance that paired Antoinette Sibley and Rudolf Nureyev. Both of them have danced with more bravura in the past, but they know what the style is supposed to be.

John Percival

Roger de Wolf



Nigel Douglas in *From the House of the Dead*

Opera
Restored to splendour

From the House of the Dead
Dominion

Back for a week in the huge but serviceable barn of the Dominion Theatre, Welsh National Opera provide in their opening production an experience of such chilling power, of such musical and dramatic cogency, that one wonders what on earth London's opera companies are up to with their French Fripperies and star vehicles when there are sill Janacek operas which are not in their repertoires.

From the House of the Dead, Janacek's own adaptation of Dostoyevsky, was left not quite complete when he died: his pupils finished it but also sentimentalized it. It has taken time to restore it to its intended splendour.

And splendid it most strangely is, in spite of its acutely depressing setting and stroy, for Janacek's genius was to point beyond the confines of the unutterably dreary prison camp (in Maria Bjornson's grey, rambling setting, a broken-down structure, hastily strapped together with barbed wire, like an abandoned archeaological dig, to the glimmer of freedon beyond).

Freedom, as the relentless tread of the prisoners passed the closing bars of David Pountney's production emphasises, is hard to see in this hopeless place.

But there is still the possibility of story-telling, of myth, and it is these episodes with which Janacek gives rhythm and meaning to the piece.

In these stories, which become the focus of the non-action (the real event, Luka's death, is a side event during a story), the WNO singers are superb: Donald Maxwell, towering over the final act as Shishkov, with Ralph Mason's wily Cherevin at his side – the glimpses of innocence in his story are painful because so remote; Nigel Douglas's sharply projected Shapkin, hysterical with laughter at the remembrance of his ears neatly pulled off: Graham Clark's manic, demented Skuratov, incisively sung.

As Luka Kuzmich, John Mitchinson lumbers over the stage with authority; Robert Carpenter Turner as the noble Petrovich is more reserved: we only glimpse his brutal treatment in the bowels of this microcosm of hell.

Alongside the stories are the Easter Day plays, crudely staged on the raise platform which serves Pountney for the assembly of the officers and (his one major gloss on he text) the quasi-Last Supper of the visitors.

Superbly lit by Chris Ellis, the act interludes flash their cameos of prison life at us, while some *of Janacek's paradocically most* colourful orchestral inspirations flash past, too.

High, whining clarinets after Luka's death; passing visions of tenderness in the strings; the brazen march of the officers; the biting wrong-note Strauss waltz: the level of inspiration here is overwhelming, and is fully realizsed under Richard Armstrong's direction. An evening of major importance – and, alone of the operas on this tour, it will be repeated, on Friday.

Nicholas Kenyon

Television
Misty intimacy

Those who send out stage classics through the small screen bear a big responsibility: they have it in their power either to lure new audiences into the theatre, or to drive them even further away. Having administered a massive dose of aversion therapy with The Oresteia, Channel 4 have now redeemed themselves with a splendid commercial for Bizet, Peter Brook and the Bouffes du Nord.

In the stage version of The Tragedy of Carmen the audience sit with their feet in the sand of the arena while the 15-piece orchestra play discreetly in the background; four singers, two actors, no chorus. In the film version, with the assistance of Ingmar Bergman's regular director of photography, the events take place in an atmosphere of misty intimacy. We sense rather than see the bull ring, the bar room, the bandits' lair, while the protagonists fight and make love in close-up.

From the opening shot of a kneeling hooded figure in the middle of a symbolic waste, everything conspires to reinforce a sence of smouldering inevitability. The original plot has been both pared down and turned inside-out, with some macabre embellishments; the sinewy new score has been given an extra whiff of danger, with tympani for the *habanera;* the final scene, with the lovers kneeling side by side to face their fate and the fatal blow seeming to descend from behind them both, suggests divine retribution rather than mere human jealousy.

This Carmen, played by Hélène Delavault, is like a serpent with her prey, dominating her handsome lovers with the sheer force of her imperious sensuality. How will the other two *Carmens* compare? The rest of this triology should be fascinating. Incidentaly, I cannot remember a more successful solution to the age-old problem of operatic dubbing in close-up. Beautiful sounds mean strained faces; strained faces look ridiculous; faces going silently through the motions undermine the soundtrack; here, for once, belief could comfortably be suspended.

Q.E.D. (BBC 1) went to China to see how the local NHS works. First surprise: unless you are a government worker it is not free. Hospital care costs a lot so the extra cash which the increasingly profit-conscious peasantry are now amassing can be absolutely vital. Remember all those propaganda films of patients undergoing major surgery with acupuncture anaesthetic? Q.E.D. suggested that such patients often suffer appalling pain. "It is better to walk on two legs than one" opined the ineffable Chairman, so western and oriental medicine are generally applied in tandem.

We witnessed a counselling session for a newly wed couple. They were reminded of the rule: one child or else. The beaming lady official pulled out a pill and showed it to the wife, and then she waved a sheath at the husband. "Before you use it take it out and blow it up. If it has a hole, don't use it." After conferring shyly for a moment, the couple decided on the pill.

Michael Church

Interview
Stories of survival

Keith Dobney



Norman Lewis at home: "Endless picaresque stories run through my mind"

Norman Lewis is doing well by the publishing boom in travellers' tales: today *Golden Earth*, his account of a journey to Burma in 1950 (which prompted Cyril Connolly to say: "Mr Lewis can make even a lorry interesting") is being reissued.

The fresh interest in past journeys has inspired him to look back through old notebooks full of "cyrillic scribbles indecipherable to anyone but me". Two days before I went to see him, he had put the finishing touches to a book about the three seasons he spent as a fisherman in Spain immediately after the war. His agent and his publisher say that it is the best thing he has written. "At the time, the experiences struck me as nothing," he says. "But when I look now at what I wrote, then I see it is full of incredible things. It was still the Spain of Lorca. In the winter, villagers hibernated."

Travel writing is only one fragment, albeit the most enjoyable one, of Lewis's life. He is in the enviable position of being as much at home in fiction as in travelling and recording, with precise detail and a gentle, self-mocking humour, what he sees. Eleven of his 16 books are novels. "I like to exercise that part of my intellectual muscle acquired as a solitary only child, whose only means of survival was telling myself stories. Endless picaresque stories rush through my mind. I like to give them a whirl." Like his traveller's tales, their settings are exotic.

Lewis is a tall, angular man with a small moustache, round glasses and an exceedingly wary expression. His father was a chemist in Enfield, but he was brought up in Wales "by three insane aunts" after his grandfather had demanded that he be "Welshified". "At the time, I thought it perfectly normal that everyone was brought up by three insane aunts."

After school he made up medicine for his father and raced decrepid motorcycles on dirt tracks, spending his evenings going in for literary competitions in *Titbits*, which he never won. Before long, he took off for South Arabia, taking a dhow down the Red Sea, and in the process learning Arabic with an ease he had never managed to bring to Welsh.

Towards the end of the 1930s Lewis found himself in Cuba. By now he was married, to a Sicilian girl fluent in five languages, from whom he picked up good Spanish and Italian, so that when war broke out someone suggested to him that he volunteer for the Intelligence Corps. (He was never to live with his wife again, but her Sicilian associations were later to provide him with material and impetus for two successful books on the Italian mafia, though he speaks of them extremely cautiously.)

"After the Salerno landings I was posted to Naples. We had to cope with a city of a million people devastated by warfare. It was a concentrated and kaleidoscopic experience. I must have covered hundreds of notebooks." Why these did not seem to him at the time the subject matter for a book was, Lewis explains, that he had no belief "in any future existence. I thought the war would go on for ever."

When it did end, and Lewis had regained a sense of confidence and the ability to contemplate regular hours through his Spanish fishing, he turned his eye towards Indo-China and set off for an almost unbroken decade of travelling, returning to England between journeys to write books that instantly became bestsellers. Meanwhile he had remarried, and had had two more children. It was visiting his son by his Sicilian wife, now in Guatemala, that sparked off a change of direction towards Latin America.

What was he looking for in his travels? People? "Probably, I don't know. I became very fascinated with the Indians, but I have never analysed why. When I arrive among them I feel a sense of enormous excitement, like catching a good sea trout. They are very different from us. They have many characteristics I admire: they are non-materialist, wild about animals, very generous and sharing, with a total absence of status."

Survival International, the human rights group dealing with tribal people, was born as a direct result of a journey Lewis made to Brazil in 1968 for *The Sunday Times* to write about the massacre of the Brazilian Indians. "I like mountains and jungles, easy jungles with paths," he said. They're great. Birds, vegetation, butterflies." Lewis speaks in short sentences, disconcertingly falling silent in what seem sometimes to be the middle.

From his travels he returns with strange plants which he introduces gingerly into his garden, having taken care "to learn their requirements". He has also surrounded his Essex house with nesting boxes and the sort of vegetation most attractive to butterflies. He cooks – the dishes he has eaten in the Far East, watches over his garden, and works. "My regret is that I've stopped reading. It's like some terminal disease. As a boy I regarded any day in which I did not finish a book a wasted one. Now I can just manage a bit of Herodotus.

Lewis is trying out an autobiography. He speaks of it with a sort of glee. "It is to be made up of essays on some seven of eight areas of my life. My childhood – can you imagine being the son of a spiritualist medium? And all those insane aunts? Then I'm going to have a go at marriage. But I worry about that. Then there's fame. That's my meeting with Hemingway in Cuba, just after he had won the Nobel Prize. Saddest man I ever met. Sated. Then there's war: what a choice I've got there."

Caroline Moorehead

Theatre

Dear Girl
Old Red Lion

This Women's Theatre Group production has been assembled from the private writings of four London friends. Ruth Slate and her companions Françoise, Minna and Eva, have no claim on history beyond the fact that, for a quarter of a century, they kept up a correspondence and personal diaries which illuminate the growth of the women's movement outside the world of spotlit oratory and public gesture.

At any other period they would probably not have made friends at all. Ruth did a humdrum job and kept house for her battling parents. Eva had been the servant in a great house. Françoise and Minna were married ladies of totally different temperaments.

But they came together from a shared sense of frustration and injustice, and the hunger to make something worthwhile of their lives. Ruth speaks for them all when she writes "I must find my centre before I experiment".

Finding the centre involved sloughing off their sexual and religious indoctrination, and learning to look at the surrounding world as a man-made artefact. Two of them make the orthodox escape from domestic service by learning to wield a typewriter. Françoise makes a stab at independence through freelance journalism.

They attend meetings, they go on Salvation Army marches, they pour out their political opinions and sexual confessions in their letters. The moving quality of the relationship is that it shows them struggling into another form of consciousness while still enmeshed by their old ties of duty and affection. The First World War emerges as the crucial event in their lives; all pacifists, they are immediately isolated from Britain's jingoistic matriarchy.

Libby Mason and Tierl Thompson's script succeeds in combining chronology with a thematic organization. The show falls into smoothly linked sessions on family life, work, menfolk, live between women, and other subjects marking their progressive emancipation from the past.

Parallel conversations often proceed on opposite sides of the set, and any sense of monotony is held at bay by Jo Richler's musical punctuation, and by bold scenic contrast.

Miss Mason's production loses its firm shape in the final emotionally-clogged episodes; but up to that point the four girls are sharply distinguished by Sandy Maberley, Hazel Maycock, Adele Saleem, and Susan McGoun; who leave you convinced that these were interesting and courageous people, blessed among other things with a keen sense of humour.

Irving Wardle

Concerts

LSO/Abbado
Barbican Hall

One goes dreary years without ever hearing a note of Webern in the concert hall: now all of a sudden, to mark his centenary, the whole output is being played in just over a week at the Barbican. On Tuesday night the first concert in this Olivetti Festival was encouragingly attended and hugely successful. It was unfortunate only that little of the success was Webern's.

Possibly because orchestras so rarely have the opportunity to play his music, and certainly because they have insufficient time to rehearse it properly, performances tend to perpetuate the notion of Webern as some impractical, abstract mathematician of sound, when in fact he was in search of a music as fresh and lovely as the mountain flowers he cherished. Here it was again that the London Symphony Orchestra under Claudio Abbado gave us performances of his Variations and his *Musical Offering* arrangement that were waiting for a corporate rhythm, a feeling of lines being drawn in zigzags of colour across the ensemble.

However, I am in no mood to carp after the outstanding accounts of Mahler's first symphony and, even more so, Berg's three pieces that followed the Webern. The temptation is rather to see it as Webern's fault that he withdrew so much from the tumults where Berg and Mahler throve, and where Mr Abbado and his players had them thriving on Tuesday.

The Berg performance was almost a miracle; and at last here was a work that benefited from the spotlighting of the Barbican's acoustics. At the most crowded pages every strand was clear, but that would have been pointless, as it was in the Webern, without the orchestra's wholesale reconstruction of Berg's excess. The middle movement, a waltz of loose eroticism as seedy as it is seductive, was full of the most gorgeous melody, and the final march sustained its crescendo of overbearing triumph right to the last bar, where trumpets and high woodwind shout Berg's musical initial only to have it stifled.

There can be no single moment in music more violently autobiographical: Mahler is a model of taste and good order in comparison.

Paul Griffiths

LPO/Rostropovich
Festival Hall

Mstislav Rostropovich's concert with the London Philharmonic Orchestra was undeniably exciting to watch. His lavish balletic exertions saw to that. But it is not enough, of course, for a conductor merely to demonstrate involvement with the music, and though the orchestra's playing occasionally matched its master's feverish passions, the sounds it made were much more often simply ragged.

It probably did not help that most of the music was on the dark side. Prokofiev's Sixth Symphony, a work too seldom heard, broods on the tragedy of the last war for much of its course. After the agonizingly intense middle movement the finale promises briefly to lighten the atmosphere. But even here under the brilliant surface, simmers and immense sorow. It is too overpowering when for a Shostakovich-like irony to intrude. One wished only that this performance could have adequately reflected these depths;

Previously we heard a rather dour reding of Ravel's orchestration of Mussorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition*. There were some notable solos, from Paul Lawrence (tuba), Stephen Trier (saxaphone) and especially Lawrence Evans (trumpet); it was good to hear the timpani played with such accuracy and subtlety, too. But the more jovial pictures sounded laboured, while "The Old Castle" lacked any sense of mystery and the majesty of "The Great Gate of Kiev" was but a hollow ceremony.

Stephen Pettitt

Pop
Trapped in idolatry

Duran Duran
Manchester Apollo

If 1983 has marked the return of the teen idols, Duran Duran can take a dubious pride in having retained their scream-appeal title. The opening night of this tour confirmed their status as brand leaders in the pubescent and very noisy small girl market. But having aspired to this lofty height Duran Duran seem remarkably unaware of what to do with the power.

While their last album *Seven And The Ragged Tiger* found the band attempting to mature, assimilating a degree of *Let's Dance*-styled Bowie into their own repertoire, this live show was simply more of pop's lowest common denominator.

Granting the commercial aspects of Duran's success, the glossy good looks and obvious hooks, one would have expected them to attempt an entertainment that differed from the stock rock cliches. Far from it. Despite the modern connotations of their sound and the post-New Romantic imagery, Duran are quite happy wallowing in the old-fashioned routines.

Singer Simon Le Bon is a curiously clumsy performer for someone at this level and while the band are competent enough at striking the right pose they lack the charisma necessary to sustain any excitement. They offered dutiful deliveries of the hits "Rio", "Is There Something I Should Know?" and "Planet Earth" but the constant hysteria of the audience did them no favours. The sound was homogenized and bland.

To their credit Duran are smart enough not to patronise the crowd in the way Wham! do; they do not prey on fey sexuality. Similarly, their commitment to pleasing the fans is genuine. They would argue that you cannot eat artistic integrity. What rankles finally is the perfunctory acceptance of what they do as an end in itself. I suspect Duran Duran would like to be taken seriously. Unfortunately the idolatry is nothing more than a comfortable trap.

Max Bell

RECENT ISSUES

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MARKET REPORT ● by Michael Clark

Hawker shares take off

ACCOUNT DAY: Dealings began, Nov 28. Dealings end, Dec 9. Contango Day, Dec 12. Settlement Day, Dec 19.

Shares of Hawker Siddeley staged their own vertical take-off yesterday climbing 16p to 362p as one broker prepared to make a major upgrading on the company's prospects.

The broker, W Greenwall, hopes to complete a study of the company shortly, and is confident that investors will be on a winner. It believes Britain's healthier climate bodes well for Hawker. Growing export markets and a heavy investment programme in North America should soon be filtering through to profits.

Market analysts are looking for pretax profits of between £120m and £125m for the year against £116.2m last time. However, some brokers are looking for a figure of nearer £133m and this is certain to start another round of upgrading among other market experts.

Meanwhile, the rest of the equity market continued to maintain its record breaking run, although this would not have been evident from the turnover level. The FT Index closed at its high for the day 5.4 up at 753.6, helped by a firmer appearance on Wall Street and renewed activity among blue chips.

On the gilt edged market, prices rose by up to 50p supported by Tuesday's better than expected bank lending figures. But on the foreign exchange sterling dropped to its lowest level ever, falling 55 points to $1.4355.

It looks as though the worst may be over at Steetley, currently the subject of a bid from Hepworth Ceramic. Yesterday the shares rose 6p to 218p as broker Scrimgeour Kemp Gee continued to recommend the shares, despite halved pretax profits and a cut in the dividend last year. At the halfway stage this year Steetley produced profits of £10.5m and Scrimgeour is looking for a similar performance in the second.

Dealers have become increasingly confident of the economic outlook and this may be the reason why the Government broker has decided to release an extra £500m of existing stock. They are £300m of Exchequer 10¼ per cent 1995 and £200m of Exchequer 10½ per cent 1994.

Among leaders, **Bowater** slipped 1p to 240p after scaling new heights on Monday on hopes that terms for the sale of its Corner Brook milling interest might be announced shortly. The shares have been active of late, sliding to below the 190p level only to recover this account on bid hopes.

Blue Circle fell 8p to 428p and **Rugby Portland** 5p to 99½ after news that the Cement Makers Federation council meeting had decided against the expected 5 per cent rise in cement prices.

Rugby was reckoned to have been pressing for a big rise in prices, but Blue Circle, which has been more affected by imported cement than other producers, wanted to see the price freeze extended and its view prevailed.

Great Universal Stores 'A' responded 9p to 605p ahead of figures later today, while the ordinary added 9p to 610p. Analysts are looking for pretax profits of between £89m to £93m compared with £82.8m last year.

Shares of Dixon Group rose 5p to 245p – just 1p short of the year's high – as broker Scott Goff Hancock continued to argue for an upgrading of the shares. Interim figures out shortly are expected to show pretax profits up from £5.5m to £7.5m with SGH looking for an increase in the full year from £14m to a record £18.5m.

There has again been big US support for shares of BTR, 13p dearer at 412p. American investors reckon the shares should soon reflect bumper profits after this year's acquisition of Thomas Tilling in one of the biggest takeover battles ever see on the London stock market.

Over on the Unlisted Securities Market, shares of **Pericom** made an encouraging start after a placing by the brokers Capel-Cure Myers and Albert E. Sharpe. The shares were placed at 140p and closed at 152p

Peachfield, a private company, has increased its stake in that old takeover favourite **Highgate & Job**. Earlier this week it bought a total of 137,000 shares amounting to 14.9 per cent of the equity. Shares of Highgate responded to the news with a 4p rise to 110p.

But **Eastern Produce** slipped 3p to 163p after *Lawrie Group* announced it had bought an extra 117,000 shares, taking its total holding to 1.79 million shares, or 17.12 per cent of the total.

Dalgety spurted 12p to 398p after a buy recommendation from broker Phillips & Drew who is impressed by the 9 per cent yield. Another big broker is also recommending the shares and says they made a good start in the first quarter and should be capable of at least £22½m in the first six months.



C—E

F—H

I—N

O—S

T—Z

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

INSURANCE

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SHIPPING

MINES

OIL

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PLANTATIONS

MISCELLANEOUS

UNLISTED SECURITIES

Sterling: Spot and Forward



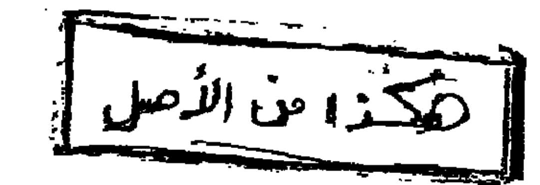
Money Market Rates

Other Markets

Dollar Spot Rates

Euro-$ Deposits

Gold





THE TIMES
FINANCE AND INDUSTRY
Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Faster world growth and a diminishing debt problem

A perceptible glow of optimism that the world may be over the hump of the debt crisis, apparent since this autumn, has been growing brighter as signs of economic recovery have multiplied.

M. Jacques de Larosière, managing director of the International Monetary Fund, yesterday added his voice to the band of hope. He told a French foreign trade symposium that the IMF was now predicting 3.5 per cent growth in the industrial countries next year (compared with 3.25 per cent forecast in September), after 2 per cent this year. It was expected to be accompanied by a 4.5 per cent expansion of world trade.

Each 1 per cent growth in the West over the next three years means $35 billion (£24.2 billion) additional export earnings for the hard-pressed developing countries, equivalent to one-third of their total debt service payments for 1982, the IMF chief pointed out.

Third World nations have already made substantial efforts to help themselves. They have managed, in the midst of the most severe global recession since the war, to cut their aggregate balance of payments deficit to about $67 billion this year from $110 billion in 1981. Their debt service payments have come down from 23 per cent to 19 per cent.

A durable world recovery, tough adjustment programmes by debtor countries and the maintenance of credit flows to the developing world could lower the debt service ratio to 14 per cent over the next three years, M de Larosière said.

Also striking an optimistic note, Herr Karl Otto Poehl, president of the German Central Bank, told reporters yesterday that the $3 billion bridging loan from the industrial countries to help the IMF over its cash shortage (to be matched by a similar sum from Saudi Arabia) would be agreed when central bankers meet next week in Basle.

The encouraging picture painted by M de Larosière, which follows the recent analysis of Third World debts by Professor William Cline, of the Washington-based Institute for International Economics, is a less certain prospect than he makes it seem. The growth of protectionist pressures and the huge American budget deficit, now seemingly cast in steel until after next year's presidential election, throws deep shadows on optimism.



Schmidt (left) and De Larosière: harsh words about US deficit

According to the IMF managing director, who had some harsh things to say about the US deficit, interest rates in the seven largest economies were more than 5 per cent above inflation, when the difference should be no more than 2 per cent.

Herr Helmut Schmidt, former West German Chancellor, went further when he said yesterday that the US deficit was the world's biggest economic problem.

In remarks reminiscent of Mr Edward Heath's call a couple of years ago for a "ring-fence" of capital controls round Europe, Herr Schmidt said European countries might be forced to impose capital controls to stop outflows to the US. Almost as the words came out, the idea was being pooh-poohed by the president of the West German Central Bank.

Sterling knocked to lowest by oil price uncertainty

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

Uncertainty over the future of oil prices knocked sterling in late trading yesterday. The pound fell sharply to its lowest level against the dollar, touching $1.4350 at one stage in New York. It recovered to finish 75 points down in London at a record closing low of $1.4420.

The drop followed news that the Nigerian senate had voted to pull out of the Organization of Oil Exporting Countries if its oil production quota was not raised in the talks being held in Geneva. This heightened worries that oil prices may not hold.

As a petrocurrency sterling is vulnerable to fears of lower prices.

The sudden fall in sterling was the more unexpected because it came after a buoyant afternoon performance in the wake of balance of payments figures showing a £1,200m surplus on current account in the first three quarters of this year, twice the level estimated.

Three weeks ago the Treasury predicted a surplus for this year as a whole of just £500m, falling to zero next year after a surplus of £5,400m last year.

The revision is entirely accounted for by higher invisible earnings, including interest, profit and dividends remitted from overseas, and transfer payments helped by an improvement in the Government's balance with the EEC.

The balance of payments figures released yesterday by the Central Statistical Office also show that portfolio investment overseas totalled £5,050m in the first three quarters this year, up from £4,470m in the same period a year ago.

The pound's late weakness was amplified by more technical factors. Traders wanting to buy marks decided to sell sterling rather than dollars, because the US currency is expected to remain strong.

The pound ended the day lower against all currencies though the final calculation of its effective index, made earlier by the Bank of England, showed a 0.1 improvement to 82.9.

The dollar made widespread though modest gains against most currencies, its trade-weighted index rising 0.3 to 129.6.

Though there is general agreement that the dollar is overvalued by as much as a fifth on fundamental economic grounds, in terms of relative inflation and competitiveness, no one dares predict when it will fall.

The booming economy, and high US interest rates underpinned by the huge federal budget deficit, coupled with international political tensions, continue to make the dollar an overwhelming attraction for short-term funds.

The pound's weakness against the dollar also rules out a cut in British interest rates.

The situation gives Britain the worst of all worlds. Sterling's weakness against the dollar raises inflationary pressures, since many imported basic materials are priced in dollars.

But it remains at high levels against European currencies and the yen, which leaves British goods uncompetitive in their most important export markets.

The Government will therefore be reluctant to raise interest rates as this could push up sterling against these currencies risking damage to the recovery.

Index rise continues

The stock market continued to shrug off its worries about the pound yesterday as it again scaled new heights, with the FT Index closing 5.4 up at 753.6.

Tuesday's better-than-expected bank lending figures also helped sentiment and the Bank of England took the opportunity to dip into the gilts market to help finance government expenditure.

Yesterday, it announced an additional £500m of stock – £300m of Exchequer, 10¼ per cent, 1995 and £200m of Exchequer, 10 ½ per cent, 1994. Dealings are expected to start tomorrow.

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 753.6 up 5.4
FT Gilts: 83.33 up 0.33
FT All Share: 463.59 up 1.99
Bargains: 20,046
Datastream USM Leaders Index: 95.92 up 0.15
New York: Dow Jones Industrial Average: (latest) 1277.64 up 8.33
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 9,404.99 down 33.80
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 874.36 down 7.22
Amsterdam: 156 down 0.4
Sydney: AO Index 735.0 up 1.5
Frankfurt: Commerzbank Index 1022.7 down 0.3
Brussels: General Index 129.32 unchanged
Paris: CAC Index 150.4 up 0.4
Zurich: SKA General Index 384.10 down 0.20

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling
$1.4420 down 75pts
Index 82.9 up 0.1
DM 3.9425 down 0.0150
FrF 11.9550 down 0.04
Yen 337.75 down 1.50
Dollar
Index 129.6 up 0.3
DM 2.7325 up 0.0022
NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling $1.4405
Dollar DM 2.7365
INTERNATIONAL
ECU £0.571594
SDR £0.723198

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rates 9
Finance houses base rate 9½
Discount market loans week 9
3 month interbank 9⅜-9¼
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 9⅞-10
3 month DM 6⅜-6¼
3 month FrF 13⅛-12⅞
US rates
Bank prime rate 11.00
Fed funds 9½
Treasury long bond 101³⁄₁₆-101⁵⁄₁₆
ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period November 2 to December 6, 1983 inclusive: 9.350 per cent.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
am $399.75 pm $399.75
close $399.50-400 (£277.25-277.75)
New York latest: $399
Krugerrand* (per coin):
$412-413.50 (£286-287)
Sovereigns* (new):
$94-95 (£65.25-66)
*Excludes VAT

Nigerians in vote to quit Opec

By David Young and Michael Prest

The Nigerian senate was yesterday reported to have voted to leave the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, as in Geneva, Opec ministers struggled to present a united front.

Saudi Arabia has argued at the Geneva meeting for pegging the price of its marker crude, the cornerstone of Opec's price structure, at $29 a barrel until the end of next year. The price was cut from $34 a barrel in March.

The motion to the Nigerian senate proposing that the count should withdraw from Opec was sponsored by Senator David Dafinone, a member of President Shehu Shagari's National Party. But the vote is not binding on the government.

The proposal was part of a wider motion which suggested five ways of surmounting Nigeria's economic crisis. Senator Dafinone argued that the country's Opec quota of 1.3 million barrels a day was not enough to produce the revenue needed to cover Nigeria's short-term debts. He advocated raising output to 2 million barrels a day.

But in Geneva, Mr Yahya Dikko, the Nigerian oil minister, said he knew nothing about the senate's vote. Asked about the reports, he said: "Oh really? I didn't know that. Tell me more." The Nigerian delegation was present when ministers resumed their discussions last night.

As the negotiations were again joined, Shaikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani, the Saudi Arabian petroleum minister, insisted that oil prices would be frozen for at least another 12 months. He said: "I assure you it will be like this because we will never in Saudi Arabia increase our price."

Shaikh Yamani went on: "Even if you have the majority in Opec to increase it, which is a hypothetical question, we are not going to increase our prices."

But other members are pressing for higher prices and bigger quotas. Mr Muhammad Gharazi, the Iranian oil minister, said yesterday morning that his government wanted a $5 increase in the marker price.

Iran and Iraq, who have been at war for three years, each argued that because of economic difficulties, it should be the first member to benefit from any increase in the demand for oil. The two Gulf producers, whose output has suffered from the fighting, accused Saudi Arabia of abusing its position as Opec's "swing" producer, by exceeding its quota.

NEDC agrees more joint job studies

By Jonathan Davis, Financial Correspondent

The Government, CBI and TUC have agreed to take part in further joint studies of Britain's employment prospects in what was being cautiously hailed last night as an encouraging step towards a new mood of tripartite conciliation on the economy.

The decision to press ahead with the joint studies was taken at yesterday's meeting of the National Economic Development Council where the Treasury produced its long-awaited paper on the prospects for new jobs.

The 30-page study, which was undertaken on the initiative by Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, earlier this summer, makes it clear that the Government is expecting most new jobs to come from the service industries, with little or no further growth in manufacturing industry jobs.

It says that these new jobs will only materialize if employers, employees and unions are prepared to become more flexible in their approach to work, with more frequent job changes, more flexible hours, more part-time work, and greater job mobility. It gives a warning that this process of structural change in the economy will not be "completely painless".

The TUC also submitted a paper to the council meeting warning that despite some increases in service jobs the "real" rate of unemployment could still rise to more than 5 million by the end of the 1980s.

The ensuing debate was described by all the participants as one of the most constructive and encouraging to have been held at the council since Mrs Thatcher came to power in 1979.

Sir Terence Beckett, director general of the CBI, said it was one of the most constructive meetings for many years, at which a lot of common ground had been established.

Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, welcomed the Treasury's paper as a serious response to a challenging issue, and said he hoped the further joint exercises would start "to chart common ground leading to real agreed action".

Mr Lawson, also said he was encouraged by the fact that joint work had been started on future employment patterns, which he said went "to the heart of our economic problems".

RIT takes 7% stake in jobbers

By Philip Robinson

Mr Jacob Rothschild's RIT and Northern investment trust group yesterday announced it owns 7.72 per cent of the stockjobbers Smith Brothers.

Independent share purchases by the New York company L F Rothschild Unterberg Towbin, of which RIT owns 50 per cent, had taken the stake above the 5 per cent level required to be declared under British company law.

Mr Tony Lewis, Smith's chairman, said last night: "RIT have had just under 5 per cent of us for some time. This announcement does not particularly surprise me. I don't think its a threat of a takeover. It may be, I just don't know."

Smith's price has soared this year from 38p to last night's 83p, up 2p on the day. Behind the price surge was a belief that changes in the Stock Exchange rules on shareholding by outsiders would mean strategic stakes being taken in both Smith and Akroyd & Smithers, London's other publicly quoted jobbers.

Last month, Mercury Securities, the quoted parent of SG Warburg, the respected City merchant bank, paid £21m for 29.9 per cent stake in Akroyd.

Market traders believe that discussions are taking place between Smith and outsiders.

RIT's London and New York buying of Smith stock, giving it 1.002 million shares and breaching the 5 per cent level, is likely to have been an error.

RIT holds a 29.9 per cent stake of Kitcat & Aitken, the London stockbrokers, and this month will consummate the substantial merger between itself and Charterhouse Group, the merchant bank.

It has emerged that on taking its Kitcat stake, RIT promised not to take more than 5 per cent of any other member firm without consulting the Exchange's ruling council. The council will begin today to decide if it thinks RIT ought to sell 2.5 per cent of Smith Brothers to return the holding to the 5 per cent level.

Hanson shares soar on record profit of £91m

By Our Financial Staff

Hanson Trust
Year to 30.9.83
Pretax profit £91.1m (60.4m)
Stated earnings 16.9p (12.7p)
Turnover £1,484m (£1,148m)
Net total dividend 5p (4p adjusted)
Share price 252p Yield 2.8%
One for two scrip proposed

Hanson Trust is on course for another set of record profits this year on the back of a substantial recovery in the US economy.

The good prospects follow record results for 1982-83 which surpassed market expectations and pushed the share price to a record 252p.

The industrial conglomerate, built up by Lord Hanson through acquisition and now including Ever Ready and the Allders (formerly UDS) retail business, increased profits from £60.4m to £91.1m.

The good results stemmed particularly from the improving performance of Hanson's UK and European companies like Ever Ready and Butterley, the brick maker, and a substantial fall in central costs.

The balance sheet is strong with a large cash element of £408m, helped by sales of UDS assets which totalled £160m and good cash generation from the rest of the business. Allders contributed £6.7m on sales of




Lord Hanson: on target for another record year

£154m in its five months with the conglomerate.

Mr Hector Sants, of Phillips & Drew, the stockbrokers, believes Hanson will make at least £125m and probably more for the current year but warns that the market is nervous about further British acquisitions. The improvement will come from the US where the businesses had a strong finish to the year, from a further fall in costs and a much greater contribution from Allders.

Hanson has a 9.4 per cent stake in London Brick and market speculation has connected it with both Tate & Lyle and Bowater. However, with half its business in the US, it is likely to spend some of its cash mountain there

Slater ghost walks again

The move by Mr Gwyn Ward Thomas, the chairman of Trident Television, to stage a management buyout of three of its companies seems to have acted as an advertisement.

Yesterday, Trident announced it had sold Windsor Safari Park, scenery makers Watts & Corry and a company with rights over Trident films to the private concern Southbrook and City Holdings for £2.26m cash. Two banker's drafts are already earning interest in Trident's bank account.

The cash pays for assets of £1,804,000 and profits before tax for the year to the end of last September of £571,000. It also takes into account corporation tax liabilities of £435,000. The tax element under Mr Ward Thomas's buyout would have been left with Trident.

Controlling Southbrook are Mr Derek Dawson and Mr Alan Joelson. Mr Dawson was a managing director of Hemdale, a company started by Mr John Daley and actor Mr David Hemmings in the late 1960s. Hemdale came to t stock market by a reverse takeover of Purben Holdings in 1968.

Five years later it was bid for by Equity Enterprises, where Mr David Frost was deputy chairman, and the backing force was the former financial giant Slater, Walker, with almost a third of the shares.

But in the mid-1970s Mr Dawson was involved in buying back Hemdale, whose name was changed to Southbrook in January 1982. Mr Joelson was a founder and former managing director of the Pleasurama casino group. He resigned in 1975 to join Mr Dawson.

The success of Southbrook, which is involved in theme parks in Spain and has interests in films, is a setback for Mr Ward Thomas. He returns from abroad today to face the matter of compensation for relinquishing his chairman's seat to Lord Hanson at the annual meeting next February. Under his buyout scheme he would have received £83,000. He has a four-year service agreement with Trident at an annual salary of £100,000.

He is still likely to be chairman when the Monopolies and Mergers Commission finally publishes its report into Pleasurama's £56m takeover bid for Trident.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Synterials issue sets USM record

James Capel & Co, one of London's premier stockbrokers, yesterday began a £20m underwriting for a new issue of a high-technology company called Synterials. The broker intends offering 80 per cent of Synterials stock on the Unlisted Securities Market, the largest amount of a company's equity ever offered there.

Synterials is a unique operation which designs and manufactures new plastics for producing manufacturers in record time and at a substantially reduced cost.

It has no real trading background and high debts of £4.5m but has been backed by a consortium of bankers including Lazards, County Bank, Morgan Grenfell and Samuel Montagu. The Group has already received tentative approaches from KLM and Fokker. Both are now attempting joint projects and have already attempted to snap up 5 per cent of the company.

● Safeway Food Stores has joined the growing list of supermarket chains reporting bumper profits. The company a wholly-owned subsidiary of Safeway Stores Inc of the United States, reported pretax profits 41 per cent higher at £24.1m on a turnover up from £502m to £597m.

● Britain's invisible earnings, from industries which include insurance, shipping, tourism and the investment industry, jumped 8 per cent for the first nine months of this year, according to official figures yesterday. For the third quarter of this year these earnings from the private sector rose by £127m to £7.6 billion and brings the total this year up from £21bn to £22.6bn. The surplus on the financial and other services continues to show substantial improvements.

Share prices drift

WALL STREET

New York (Reuter) – Share prices were mixed in early trading yesterday as the New York stock market continued to drift.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average was up by just 0.41 to 1269.72.

First-hour volume reached about 24.03 million shares.

Airline issues came into the spotlight following reports that traffic in November had increased by about 8 per cent despite higher fares. Reports said some analysts are recommending the stocks.

Many investors are keeping an eye on OPEC meeting in Geneva, where ministers are trying to decide what to do about prices and production.

On the trading floor, American Telephone & Telegraph was the most active issue, down ⅛ to 64⅞. AT & T when issued followed, off ⅛ to 19⅞. Diamond Shamrock was third on the list, up ⅛ to 19⅛.

Gulf Oil, which is engaged in a proxy battle, was ⅜ lower at 43⅞ on heavy volume.

Social trends survey: pound's purchasing power down to 25p since 1971

Signs of greater affluence despite squeeze

By Graham Searjeant

In the decade between 1961 and 1971, the spending power of the 1961 pound in your pocket fell to 64 pence. That might seem bad enough. But 10 years later, the man with a 1971 pound in his pocket would have found that worth only 27p. By last year, it was worth only a quarter of its 1971 purchasing power.

The great 1970s inflation, apart from furring up the economic tubes, has made it virtually impossible to judge what has really been happening to our incomes and spending. That confusion makes us ever more dependent on reference books of statistics and particularly on the Central Statistical Office's *Social Trends*, a compilation of figures culled from the mass of official documents and published in its 14th edition today.

In the decade to 1982, deductions from pay packets rose from 17 per cent to 21 per cent. Even so, in money terms, disposable incomes mushroomed from £42 billion to £174 billion. But after taking out inflation, disposable incomes per head rose a more modest 12.5 per cent after peaking in 1980.

Some things do not change, the distribution of incomes for instance. In 1982, the lowest paid tenth of full-time male employees received 62 per cent of the median average, virtually the same as in 1970, while the top 10 per cent slightly increased its differentials.

Even among full-timers, men are still paid far more than women, though in percentage terms the gap has narrowed. In 1971 women were on average paid 55 per cent of male earnings. By 1982 that had moved up to 66 per cent.

And far more of us are now being paid by cheque or bank credit: 53 per cent in 1981 against 39 per cent in 1976 and only 25 per cent in 1969, that partly reflects the switch from factory work to service employment.

Wages are still by far the biggest source of incomes, but social security now provides 13 per cent of incomes as against 9 per cent a decade ago, mainly due to the higher proportion of retired people and latterly, to the increase in unemployment.

Despite rumours to the contrary, the rich still pay far more taxes than those on *average or low incomes*, though the poverty trap remains fully in place as at April, 1983. The low-paid married couple with two children who boosted their income from £75 per week to a near-average £35, would increase their spending power by only 10 per cent.

However modestly the average man may be forging ahead, consumption trends show a pattern of increasing affluence that seems to belie the impression of mass destitution.

As ever, we are spending more and more on alcohol, though in the past decade that seems to represent more of a switch from tobacco than an overall dive into drug addiction.

TEN YEARS OF CHANGE

Sources of income (%)	1972	1982
Wages and salaries	67	62
Self-employment	10	7
Rent, dividends, interest	6	8
Private pensions etc	6	7
Social security	9	13
Other current transfers	2	3
	100	100
Deductions (% of incomes)		
Taxes on income	13	15
National insurance cont.	3	4
Pension scheme cont.	1	2
	17	21
Full-time employees' gross earnings (median)	1970	1982
Men	£28.7	£135.9
Women	£14.6	£90.0
	1972-73	1982-83
Income tax threshold as proportions of men's earning	41	33
Wealth distribution	1971	1981
Percentage of marketable wealth owned by:		
Top 1% of population	31	23
Top 5% of population	52	45
Top 10% of population	65	60

Pattern of spending (index of consumers' real spending at 1980 prices, 1980=100)	1972	1982
Food	98	99
Alcohol	79	94
Tobacco	104	86
Clothing and footwear	82	109
Purchase of vehicles	115	105
Post and Telecommunications	59	102
TV, video etc	54	126
Newspapers, books etc	109	93
Abroad	59	106
All consumer spending	89	101
Use of consumer durables	1973	1982
Percentage of households with:		
		weekly
Vacuum cleaner	88	95
Refrigerator	78	93
Deep-freeze (inc. fridge-freezers)	–	51
Washing machine	67	79
Tumble dryer	–	4
Dishwasher	–	4
Telephone	45	76
Car	54	59
Car	54	59
Central heating	39	60
Television	95	97

Patrick Knight reports from Sao Paulo on the world's toughest debt problem

Brazil cannot win the self-help battle on its own

With a modicum of luck, Brazil should not return to the top of the financial news pages for the next four months. Pressure will probably only start building up strongly again in March, when the country gets back to work after the Carnival is over.

Brazil's debt drama became acute more than a year ago, forcing bankers to spend last Christmas struggling with the first of a series of rescue packages.

Now the International Monetary Fund has finally agreed that the series of aims set for 1984 can be made to stick, which was not true of the three earlier attempts. As a result, the IMF has released more than $1 billion (£689m) of frozen drawing rights, money which has already been used to pay back long overdue bridging loans to the Bank for International Settlements.

Encouraged by the thaw, most of Brazil's 830 creditor banks have moved funds from one side of their balance sheets to the other, releasing loans arranged at the turn of the year, but frozen since May, when it became clear that Brazil was not going to meet targets initially agreed with the IMF. The first tranches of the latest $6.5 billion (£4.5 billion) loan should also be released before the year's end.

It remains ominous that fewer than half of Brazil's creditor banks have agreed to join in with the latest loan. Most of the absentees are small fry, responsible for less than 10 per cent of the debt between them.

Brazil might even end the year with something in its reserves, rather than owing up to $3 billion in unpaid interest, overdue bills and charges, as during the past few months.

But few expect the lull to last for more than four or five months. Then Brazil will be back, asking for more, much more.

A low estimate is $5billion. So how much longer will the drama last, and is the worst yet over?

This depends on two factors: one which Brazil can do something about, the other it cannot. It depends on how well the measures which have been taken so far, or are to be taken, will work out. But it also depends on how strong and sustained the international recovery, and consequently the growth of world trade, will prove to be, as well as on such variables as interest rates, the price of oil, and the weather.

The basic demand of the IMF has been that Brazil's public sector deficit should be brought under control, by curbing trends that led to inflation reaching the present 200 per cent a year level, one of the world's highest, and the worst yet in Brazil itself.

This year, subsidies on foodstuffs, cheap credit for farmers, and subsidies for oil have been eliminated, or sharply reduced. Almost all incomes have been cut, either through wage rises being set below the inflation rate, or through the mechanism of inflation itself, working to reduce disposable incomes, as prices rise ahead of incomes.

Tight controls on imports, down by more than $2 billion, and a fifth in volume from last year's, have forced industry to make do with higher priced local alternatives, cutting demand.

However, in an economy as highly indexed as Brazil's, such measures initially tend to boost inflation, rather than slow it. And that has happened this year, which is a shock for the IMF.

In addition, despite all the promises, little has been done to curb state sector spending. Capital spending is being halved over a two-year period.

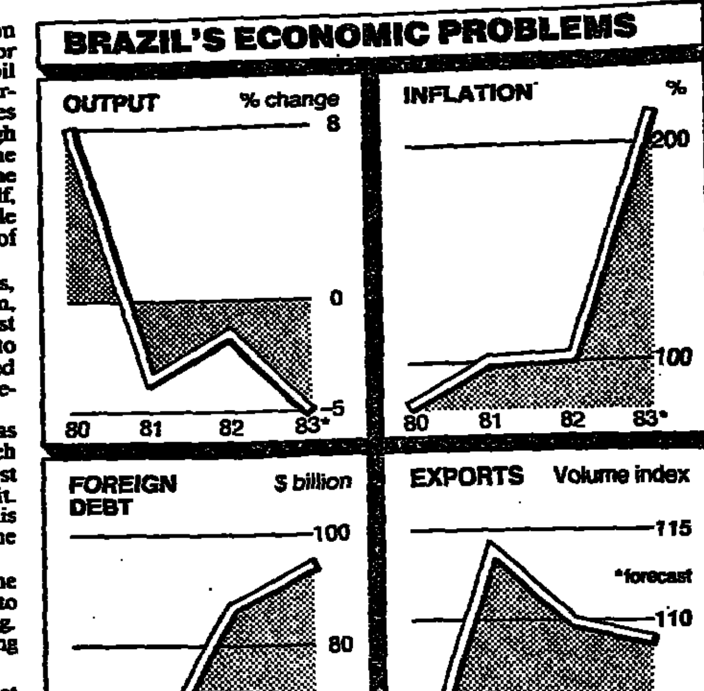
But the Government has yet to summon up the courage to cut staff. Last year, an election period, those employed by the public sector grew by at least half a million. And although a few of those appointed in an attempt to prevent the Government party's electoral performance being worse than it was have been sacked, they have been more than replaced by new appointments made where the Opposition has taken control.

Despite civil construction falling by 18 per cent in a year, industrial output tumbling by nearly 10 per cent, and commerce generally being cut by 7 per cent, the tertiary sector, responsible for more than half of gross national product and largely formed by the public

Little has been done to curb state spending

sector, has not shrunk at all this year. The financial impact has been made far worse by the yields of many taxes being reduced by more than a quarter.

It remains to be seen whether this will be tackled with



sufficient will next year to achieve results. The Government seems to be relying on the recent wage law, and on eliminating generous perks, rather than actually cutting staff, in a year which will also be politically sensitive, as the build-up to the presidential election gathers pace.

One bright spot is agriculture. Subsidies to farmers, and on food have been replaced by high farm gate prices. This may have contributed to inflation this year, and forced people to spend more on food, but it has stimulated a shift in investment from the stagnant cities to the farms.

Weather permitting, next year's harvest should be a record. That will be good for exports and will help to depress inflation and eliminate the need to import food.

Another success has been in curbing the oil bill. Internal production has reached the record 400,000 barrels a day, reducing the import bill.

But as all of Brazil's creditors have admitted, whatever Brazil can do, will be insuficient to make an impact on a debt burden which, despite the visible trade surplus being three times last year's, will rise by not less than 10 per cent this year. That is certainly below last year's horrific 14.6 per cent increase, but it is still becoming a heavier burden each year.

The key lies in export. The 23 per cent devaluation at the beginning of last year, along with continued mini-devalu-

The devaluation has kept Brazil's goods competitive

ations, has kept Brazil's goods competitive in the US, and, to a slightly lesser degree, in Western Europe.

But this has not compensated for sharp falls in stagnant markets in virtually the whole of the rest of the world.

Brazil's optimists hope that world trade will grow by between 8 and 10 per cent next year, permitting the country's exports to grow by 12 per cent as a result.

Last year, exports shrank to an all-time low of 6.5 per cent of gnp. They will be slightly more than that this year, but that is mainly because gnp itself has fallen. The impressive trade surplus of more than $6 billion is almost entirely the result of cuts in imports; any export rises are due more to firmer prices, than extra volumes.

There have also been allegations that trade figures have been massaged, notably by recording exports almost as soon as firm orders are received, but only recording imports when the goods actually arrive in Brazil, a tactic which can only be used once.

Things could improve next year. Demand for some commodities, notably soya, is strong, due to the failure of the US crop while coffee and cocoa look promising. But demand for iron ore continues to shrink, despite the US recovery. Sugar, once one of Brazil's four leading export earners, remains very weak, due principally to the subsidy on beet given by the EEC.

The Government is aiming to push exports up to about 9 per cent of gnp which implies a sustained growth of 10 per cent or more each year.

That depends only partly on Brazil. It depends much more on the developed countries considering that growth is more important for the world, than finally defeating an inflation running now at the sort of levels which would cause a second Carnival in Brazil.

The low value of the cruzeiro enabled Brazil to make some spectacular gains this year, to compensate for declines in Third World market. Steel exports, for example, are running at double what they were last year, and still rising. The US, Japan and China being the main markets.

The first two countries have obsolete steel mills facing prohibitive capital costs for replacement. So Brazil's new mills, built with considerable sacrifice and representing a significant chunk of the debt, are able to compete.

But will this be permitted without provoking the sort of protectionist reaction, which will curb export growth in future, and provoke another financial crisis?

For Brazil to escape finally from the bankers' clutches will take time. Eight to 10 years on a steady course is what optimistic planners in Brasilia think. And that depends on a lot of things going right, and very few going wrong.

INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK ● edited by Michael Prest

Granada – printing money at a slower pace

Television companies would prefer these days that nobody had ever mentioned licences to print money, and Granada was no exception. Group pretax profits for the year fell by 7.6 per cent to £43.5m while turnover put on 14 per cent to £521m. Trading surplus, moreover, went up by the same amount to £128m.

Measured by volume, the television and video rental business is the problem. Its share of group profits shed another percentage point last year to 55.4 per cent of £24.7m of trading profits.

But it is clear that long-term growth will come from other areas. The trouble for Granada is that the new profits source is not obvious.

The areas which did show a significant improvement over last year were overseas rentals, bingo and cinemas, and motorway services. The former is particularly promising because the £5.72m trading profit, up from £2.82m, came after absorbing £2.4m of development costs in the United States.

Investment and economies in bingo helped to raise its contribtion from £4.69m to £6.06m.

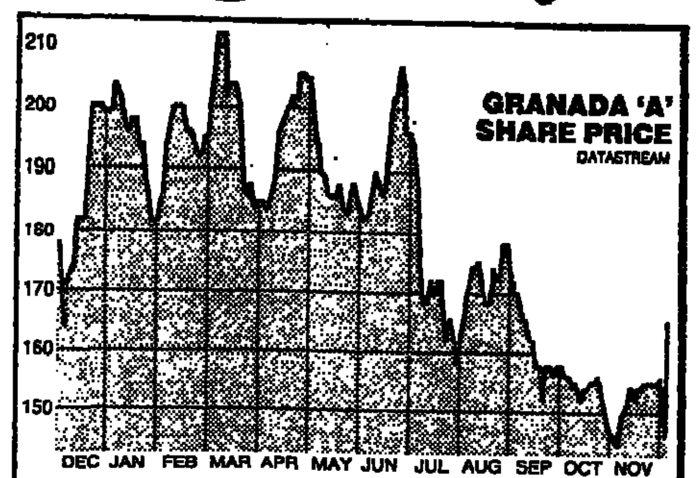
Mororway services almost doubled trading profits to £2.59m – again the fruit of heavy investment in recent years. Granada also benefited from the petrol price war.

But the television business proper, still in a sense the group's flagship, saw its Channel Four subscription go up from £5.7m last year to a considerable £15.6m. After levy relief the actual figure was £3.3m, so the division's trading profit of £6.7m compared with £8.9m was more creditable than it might seem at first sight.

What really upset the figures, however, was the sharp turnround in the Belgian insurance business. It lost £2m. This is supposed to include all known claims, and shareholders will certainly hope that it is so.

In the end, earnings per share fell only slightly to 12.5p, and this doubtless encouraged the directors to raise the final dividend by 10 per cent to 3.7p net.

The full payout of 5.8p, up 6 per cent, is covered 2.1 times and yields a very fair 5 per cent.



Pilkington

Pilkington's strong progress in the first half, during which pretax profits rose by 90 per cent to £30.4m, disguises the continuing, if diminishing losses, incurred on the core British operations. It the company's version of current cost accounting is accepted, the shortfall in *this country* was £11.1m.

But of that total £7.2m was redundancy and pension cost, a figure which may be bigger in the second half. Despite the weakness of demand and foreign competition encouraged by the resilience of sterling against European currencies, especially in the flat glass market, the trading position improved from a loss of £12.7m to a loss of £3.9m.

Flat glass is running at about 90 per cent of capacity, another favourable indicator, and Pilkington has restored its market share to 55 per cent.

Overseas, however, the picture is brighter. Libbey-Owens-Ford in the US contributed £4.6m, and the South African, Swedish and, oddly enough, Argentine companies did well.

But below the line, this imbalance between Britain – where it must be admitted the specialist electro-optical, ophthalmic and cemfil glasses are performing solidily – and overseas generates tax problems. After £25.6m in tax, of which £23.5m was incurred abroad, the attributable net loss was £1.8m.

The result was a retained loss of £10.3m, and a loss per share of 0.8p. Nevertheless, this is a distict advance on last year's retained loss of £15.5m or 3.9p a share, and coupled with a 27 per cent increase in turnover to £578m, supports the maintained 5p net dividend. On the 10p fall in the share price to 238p, the yield is 6.3 per cent.

Crystalate

Mr John Leworthy, chairman of the electronic component and equipment manufacturers Crystalate Holdings, does not like debt. That fact may well determine the group's decision about selling the recently acquired china business Royal Worcester. The £24m battle has left the group with £5m of Worcester debt and £9m of Crystalate loan stock – which in effect becomes a rights issue if a sale is made – both of which Mr Leworthy could do without.

But Crystalate has been unable to value that side of Worcester's business because it has yet to locate the structure of the diversified businesses. Certainly, potential bidders have not been slow to make approaches including the present managements.

Not surprisingly, Crystalate easily beat the profit forecast made at the time of the bid battle. Pretax profits are up 34 per cent to £3.2m on a turnover up from £20.7m to £23.8m. The final dividend is raised from 1.54p to 2.85p, making a total pay-out for the year of 3.255p.

The shares are back to nudging the year's peak of 192p at 186p, up 7p to yield 2.5 per cent.

Commercial Property

Surging South-east

The South-east, outside London, is enjoying a surge in office development at the expense of the rest of the country, according to a detailed study just published by St Quintin, a leading firm of chartered surveyors. It concludes that if the present trends continue there will be more commercial office space in the outer South-east than in central London by the early 1990s.

The last 10 years have seen a startling change in the situation. In 1974, central London accounted for 25.7 per cent of all commercial office floorspace in England, the outer South-east for 14.5 per cent, and all other regions combined 46.1 per cent. But over the next eight years the growth in central London office space was the lowest of these areas while that of the outer South-east was the highest. By 1982, central London's share had fallen to 23.8 per cent, but that of the outer South-east had jumped to 17.1 per cent.

Between 1968 and 1982, central London's share of the main industrial company headquarters rose from 41 per cent to 43 per cent while the outer South-east's share doubled from 7 per cent to 15 per cent, and the share of all other regions combined fell from 40 per cent to 31 per cent.

"The outer South-east's gain has not been at the expense of London but rather at the expense of the provincial conurbations and peripheral regions", the study says. The fact that, not withstanding central London's reduced share of office space, its share of major company headquarters had increased leads St Quintin to reject the possibility that the outer South-east's growth is due simply to decentralization, or that central London as an office centre is declining in absolute terms.

The study concentrated on 13 towns providing a mix which includes new towns, traditional locations, and a regional centre – Crawley, Harlow, Peterborough, Redditch, Basingstoke, Swindon, Brighton, Cheltenham, Oxford, Leatherhead, Newbury, Norwich and Ilford.

The biggest percentage increase in office floorspace since 1974 occurred in Redditch, 14 miles south of Birmingham, which nearly trebled floorspace from 103,300 sq ft to 301,300 sq ft in eight years. Swindon and Peterborough both more than doubled their floorspace, and the study concludes that proximity to London is an unreliable guide to office growth.

According to St Quintin, the main factors in determining growth are a town's attraction as a relocation base, its status as a regional or sub-regional centre, its status as a local centre and the specialization of a town in one or a few economic activities.

Status as a regional or sub-regional centre emerged as the principle factor in office development in the traditional centres of Brighton and Norwich and to some extent in Cheltenham and Oxford, but only in two – Basingstoke and Swindon – was the relocations factor responsible for rapid growth.

The comparison between Crawley and Harlow, both designated new towns in 1947, each with a similar-sized population and each a similar distance from London, is significant. Crawley has benefited from proximity to Gatwick Airport and the town has developed as a sub-regional centre, resulting in dynamic growth. Harlow, without the advantage of a Gatwick, has been unable to expand its office sector to the same extent.

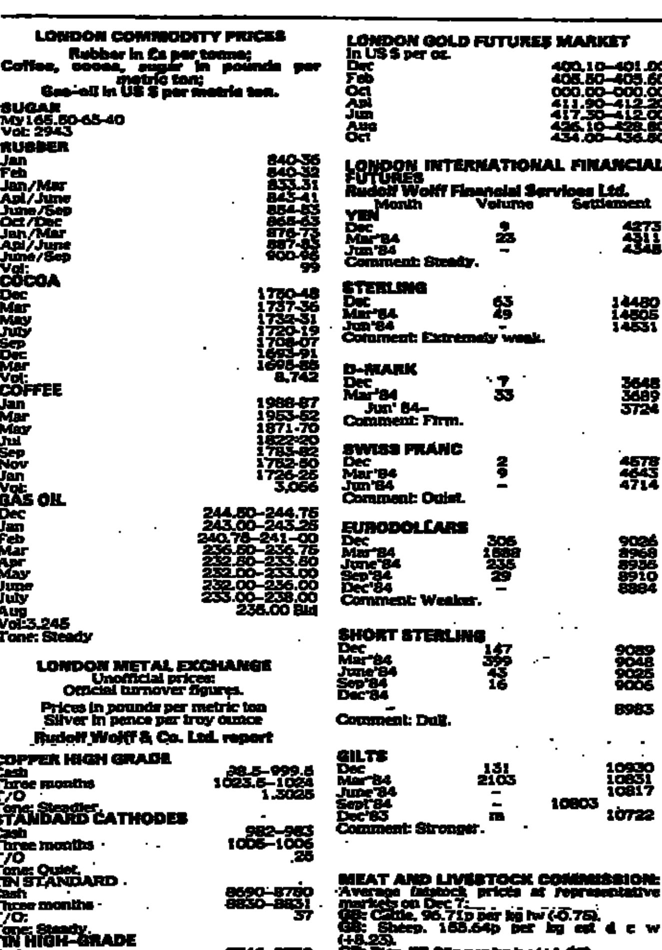
A close look at a small area – Holborn, west of the City of London – by Weatherall Green and Smith shows that against a backcloth of continued economic uncertainty and a "surprisingly long period of little self-confidence" following the general election, the office property market in Holborn has stood the test "reasonably well".

Deals are still being done, although some very hard bargains have been struck to secure tenants and in recent weeks the market has shown a marked upturn, fuelled by the return of confidence in the economy, especially in the United States, the firm concludes.

They note, however, that some buildings are still unlet after a considerable time on the market and supply is still exceeding demand, leaving no immediate prospects of rental growth.

Christopher Warman

COMMODITIES



LONDON COMMODITY PRICES
Rubber in £s per tonne; Coffee, cocoa, sugar in pounds per metric ton; Gas-oil in US $ per metric ton.

SUGAR
My165.50-65-40
Vol: 2943

RUBBER	
Jan	840-36
Feb	840-32
Jan/Mar	833.31
Apl/June	845-41
June/Sep	854-83
Oct/Dec	865-63
Jan/Mar	876-73
Apl/June	887-85
June/Sep	900-98
Vol:	99

COCOA	
Dec	1750-48
Mar	1737-36
May	1732-31
July	1720-19
Sep	1708-07
Dec	1693-91
Mar	1695-88
Vol:	8,742

COFFEE	
Jan	1988-87
Mar	1953-52
May	1871-70
Jul	1822-20
Sep	1783-82
Nov	1752-50
Jan	1726-25
Vol:	3,056

GAS OIL	
Dec	244.50-244.75
Jan	243.00-243.25
Feb	240.75-241-00
Mar	236.50-236.75
Apr	232.50-233.50
May	232.00-233.00
June	232.00-236.00
July	233.00-238.00
Aug	235.00 Bid

Vol:3,245
Tone: Steady

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE
Unofficial prices: Official turnover figures.
Prices in pounds per metric ton. Silver in pence per troy ounce.
Rudolf Wolff & Co. Ltd. report

COPPER HIGH GRADE	
Cash	998.5-999.5
Three months	1023.5-1024
T/O	1,3025
Tone: Steadier.	
STANDARD CATHODES	
Cash	982-983
Three months	1005-1006
T/O	25
Tone: Quiet.	
TIN STANDARD	
Cash	8690-8780
Three months	8830-8831
T/O:	37
Tone: Steady.	
TIN HIGH-GRADE	
Cash	8745-8750
Three months	8845-8355
T/O:	140.
Tone: Steady.	
LEAD	
Cash	282.5-282.75
Three months	292-292.5
T/O:	3,475.
Tone: Steady.	
ZINC	
Cash	596-597
Three months	611-611.25
T/O:	3,750
Tone: Steady.	
SILVER LARGE	
Cash	659-660
Three months	674-675
T/O:	27
Tone: Steady.	
SILVER SMALL	
Three months	674-675
T/O:	Nil
Tone: Idle.	
ALUMINIUM	
Cash	1088-1089
Three months	1116-1117
T/O:	7,125
Tone: Steady.	
NICKEL	
Cash	3255-3260
Three months	3340-3345
T/O:	552
Tone: Steadier.	

LONDON GOLD FUTURES MARKET
In US $ per oz.

Dec	400.10-401.00
Feb	405.50-405.60
Oct	000.00-000.00
Apl	411.90-412.20
Jun	417.30-412.00
Aug	426.10-428.80
Oct	434.00-436.50

LONDON INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL FUTURES
Rudolf Wolff Financial Services Ltd.

Month	Volume	Settlement
YEN		
Dec	9	4273
Mar'84	23	4311
Jun'84	–	4348
Comment: Steady.		
STERLING		
Dec	63	14480
Mar'84	49	14505
Jun'84	–	14531
Comment: Extremely weak.		
D-MARK		
Dec	7	3648
Mar'84	33	3689
Jun'84	–	3724
Comment: Firm.		
SWISS FRANC		
Dec	2	4578
Mar'84	9	4643
Jun'84	–	4714
Comment: Quiet.		
EURODOLLARS		
Dec	305	9026
Mar'84	1888	8968
June'84	235	8935
Sep'84	29	8910
Dec'84	–	8884
Comment: Weaker.		
SHORT STERLING		
Dec	147	9089
Mar'84	399	9048
June'84	43	9025
Sep'84	16	9006
Dec'84	–	8983
Comment: Dull.		
GILTS		
Dec	131	10930
Mar'84	2103	10831
June'84	–	10817
Sept'84	–	10803
Dec'83	m	10722
Comment: Stronger.		

MEAT AND LIVESTOCK COMMISSION: Average fatstock prices at representative markets on Dec 7:
GB: Cattle, 96.71p per kg lw (-0.75).
GB: Sheep, 155.64p per kg est d c w (+8.23).
GB: Pigs, 77.25p per kg lw (+1.05).

England and Wales:
Cattle nos. down 7.1 per cent, ave. price, 97.10p (+0.29).
Sheep nos. down 9.6 per cent, ave. price, 155.30p (+8.09).
Pig nos. up 4.4 per cent, ave. price, 77.25p (+1.05).

Scotland:
Cattle nos. up 28.4 per cent, ave. price, 95.46p (-4.90).
Sheep nos. down 6.2 per cent, ave. price, 145.56p (+11.14).

London Grain Futures Market

Month	WHEAT Close	BARLEY Close
Jan	£121.80	120.95
Mar	£124.40	123.60
May	£127.35	125.30
Jly	£130.30	–
Sep	£113.35	111.10
Nov	£116.40	113.95

Total lots traded
Wheat: "B" 256
Barley: 102

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

Pegler-Hattersley
Half-year to 1.10.83
Pretax profit £7.9m (£7.3m)
Stated earnings 13.6p (13.4p)
Turnover £73.8m (£70.2m)
Net interim dividend 5p (4p)

David Dixon Group
Half-year to 1.10.83
Pretax profit £107,000 (loss £110,000)
Stated earnings 4.52p (loss 7p)
Turnover £7.4m (£6.2m)
Net interim dividend 2.22p (same)

Wolverhampton & Dudley Breweries
Year to 30.9.83
Pretax profit £12.5m (£11.3m)
Stated earnings 20.8p (20.3p)
Turnover £86.4m (£80.1m)
Net dividend 6.85p (6.05p)

Graycoat City Offices
Half-year to 30.9.83
Pretax profit £686,000 (£1m)
Stated earnings 2.1p (2.7p)
Turnover £1.4m (£1.3m)
Net interim dividend 0.6p (0.5p)



Scramble for Moray shares

By John Lawless

A scramble which developed for 7 per cent of Moray Firth Maltings shares offered at 195p yesterday was hardly surprising.

Just five weeks ago, a takeover bid – believed to have come from Harrisons & Crosfield, plantations to commodity group – valued them at 240p. Institutional shareholders, controlling 38 per cent of the group, overwhelmingly knocked that idea on the head.

The directors, however, do not expect the price to move beyond 205p or 210p when trading begins next Thursday. The USM placing theoretically opens the company to fresh bids – when it is forecasting record pretax profits for this year of £1.9m.

Mr Hugo Croft, the managing director who set up the company in 1967, close to both the barley-producing areas and Scottish Highlands distilleries, said: "Having struggled through the dramatic demand downturn in 1980, we saw no reason to let our healthy company go."

The placing capitalizes the company at £12m.

APPOINTMENTS

New BICC director named

BICC: Mr R Clark will join the board on January 1. He will take over as chairman and managing director of BICC Industrial Products from Mr D I S Hinton, who becomes director of corporate planning and development. Mr D H Booth will relinquish his planning responsibilities to concentrate on his duties as chairman of BICC Cables.

Rolls-Royce: Air Chief Marshall Sir Douglas Lowe is to join the board as a non-executive member.

Institute of Marketing: Mr Jack Wheatley, managing director of Moore's Modern Methods, has been elected chairman of the Institute for 1983-84.

Britannia Security Group: Mr Ralph Kanter is now the group managing director.

C. H. Beazer (Building Materials): Mr G. Thompson is to be managing director. Mr M. W. Drown, of Westbrick, and Mr D. Bardsley, of RBS Brooklyns, join the divisional board. Mr Thompson has been elected chairman of Westbrick. Mr Drown has become assistant managing director of Westbrick and will be responsible for the company's product development programme. Mr D. J. Courtney has now taken responsibility for production in the South West and becomes regional director for that area. Mr M. E. C. Stedham will be joining Westbrick as technical director.

M&G Investment Management: Mr J. P. Allard, Mr G. P. Craig, Mr N. D. Morrison and Mr J. H. Shillingford have become directors.

Matthew Hall up 15%

Matthew Hall, the engineering contractor, increased its pretax profits by more than 15 per cent from £8.4m to £9.7m in the first nine months of this year despite unexpectedly losing about £2m in the US. It is forecasting £12.5m for 1983 as a whole against £11.6m last year.

Results benefited from a good performance in Britain, Australia and Brazil, and a rather higher than normal level of contract completion

Mr Michael Holliday has been appointed director with special responsibility for corporate strategy.

WALL STREET

	Dec 6	Dec 5
AMP Inc	15½	15½
AMR	36¼	36⅜
Allied Chem	52⅝	53⅛
Allied Stores	53⅝	53¼
Allis Chalmers	16⅞	17
Alcoa	44⅞	44½
Amax Inc	25⅜	25⅞
Amerada Hess	25⅞	26⅜
Am Brands	58½	58½
Am Broadcast	54⅝	55
Am Can	48⅝	48⅝
Am Cyanamid	49⅝	49
Am Elec Power	18⅜	18⅜
Am Home	56⅝	56⅝
Am Motors	7⅞	7
Am Nat Res	44⅝	43
Am Standard	32	31
Am Telephone	64⅞	64⅞
Armco Steel	20	19⅞
Asarco	31⅞	31⅞
Ashland Oil	27⅞	28
Atlantic Richfield	43⅝	43
Avco	34⅝	34
Avon Products	24⅜	24⅝
Bankers Tst NY	43⅜	43⅜
Bank of America	19⅝	20⅝
Bank of Boston	40⅝	40⅝
Bank of NY	32½	32⅜
Beatrice Foods	32⅞	33
Bethlehem Steel	25⅝	26⅛
Boeing	45	45⅛
Boise Cascade	43⅝	49
Borden	55	54
Borg Warner	23⅜	23⅜
Bristol Myers	42	42
BP	23	22⅝
Burlington Ind	38⅜	38½
Burlington Nthn	100⅝	101
Burroughs	47⅛	47½
Campbell Soup	56⅝	58⅝
Canadian Pacific	41½	41⅞
Caterpillar	46⅝	46⅝
Celanese	74⅝	74⅝
Central Soya	15⅝	15⅞
Chase Manhat	46⅛	45⅞
Chem Bank NY	45⅝	46⅝
Chrysler	28⅝	29
Citicorp	34⅞	35⅜
Clark Equip	37⅞	38⅜
Coca Cola	56	56⅝
Colgate	23⅛	23⅝
CBS	66⅝	65⅝
Columbia Gas	33⅝	34
Combustion Eng	33⅝	33½
Comwlth Edison	27⅞	27⅞
Cons Edison	24⅛	24½
Cons Foods	51⅞	50⅝
Cons Power	15⅝	15
Continental Grp	50⅝	50⅛
Control Data	45⅝	44½
Corning Glass	69⅛	69
CPC Intnl	41⅞	40⅝
Crane	29⅞	30⅝
Crocker Int	29⅝	29½
Crown Zeller	37⅛	39
Dart & Kraft	68	68⅛
Deere	40⅝	40
Delta Air	40⅝	41⅞
Detroit Edison	14⅛	14⅛
Disney	57½	52⅝
Dow Chemical	33	33
Dresser Ind	18½	18⅝
Duke Power	25⅝	24⅞
Du Pont	51½	52⅝
Eastern Air	5⅞	5⅞
Eastman Kodak	73⅝	73⅛
Eaton Corp	43⅝	43½
El Paso Nat Gas	23⅝	23⅝
Esmark	61⅝	61⅞
Evans P. D.	9½	9½
Exxon Corp	38⅞	38⅛
Fed Dept Stores	54½	54
Firestone	22⅝	22⅛
Fst Chicago	23	23⅝

	Dec 6	Dec 5
Fst Interst Bncp	43⅛	43
Fst Penn Corp	7	6⅝
Ford	41½	42
GAF Corp	18⅛	15⅛
GTE Corp	43⅜	43⅝
Gen Dynamics	58⅝	59
Gen Electric	57⅞	57⅝
Gen Foods	52⅜	52⅛
Gen Mills	54	53½
Gen Motors	74	74⅛
Gen Pub Util NY	8⅝	8⅛
Gen Tire	36⅛	36⅛
Genesco	8⅛	8⅛
Georgia Pacific	25⅞	25⅞
Getty Oil	77⅝	74
Gillette	48⅝	48⅛
Goodrich	30⅝	30⅝
Goodyear	32½	32½
Gould Inc	28⅝	28
Grace	45½	45⅜
Gt Atlte & Pacific	11⅛	11⅛
Greyhound	26⅝	24⅞
Grumman Corp	28½	28⅝
Gulf Oil	44⅝	44⅝
Gulf & West	30⅝	29½
Heinz H. J.	35	34⅝
Hercules	36	36⅝
Honeywell	135⅝	136⅝
IC Inds	44⅞	44⅛
Ingersoll	48	47⅞
Inland Steel	29⅝	29⅝
IBM	117⅞	118⅝
Int Harvester	13	13
INCO	15	14⅛
Int Paper	58½	59⅛
Int Tel Tel	44⅛	44⅛
Irving Bank	51⅛	51⅛
Jewel Co	49⅝	49½
Jim Walter	37⅛	38
Johnson & John	41⅞	41⅞
Kaiser Alumin	18⅝	18⅝
Kerr McGee	27½	27⅞
Kimberly Clark	94½	95⅛
K Mart	35⅝	36½
Kroger	34⅛	34⅜
L.T.V Corp	17⅞	17⅞
Litton	68⅝	67⅞
Lockheed	39⅞	39⅛
Lucky Stores	19	19⅛
Manuf Hanover	39	38⅝
Manville Cp	10⅝	10⅛
Mapco	23½	23½
Marine Midland	27½	29½
Martin Marietta	36⅛	37
McDonnell	56⅝	56⅛
Mead	40⅝	39⅝
Merck	93⅝	92⅝
Minnesota Mng	84⅝	84⅝
Mobil Oil	28⅛	28⅛
Monsanto	109⅝	110⅝
Morgan J P	70⅝	70⅝
Motorola	138⅝	142⅝
NCR Corp	131⅛	132
NL Industries	16	16
Nabisco	41⅞	41⅞
Nat Distillers	26⅞	26½
Nat Med Ent	21⅞	21⅛
Norfolk South	62⅛	62⅞
NW Bancorp	33⅛	34
Occidental Pet	24½	24⅛
Ogden	30⅝	31
Olin Corp	32½	32⅛
Owens-Illinois	37½	37⅛
Pacific Gas Elec	16⅛	16⅛
Pan Am	8⅞	8⅞
Penney J C.	56½	56⅝
Pennzoil	33	33
Pepsico	38⅝	38⅝
Pfizer	38⅝	36
Phelps Dodge	25⅞	26
Philip Morris	71½	71½
Phillips Petrol	32⅝	33½
Polaroid	33⅝	33⅝
PPG Ind	35⅝	36

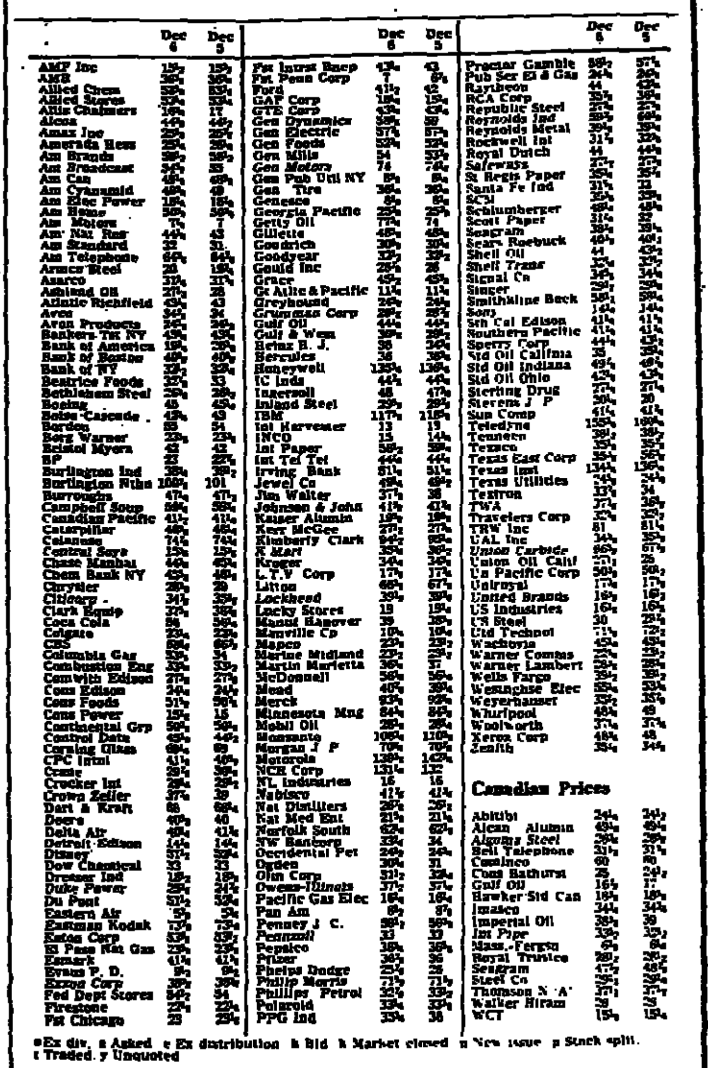
	Dec 6	Dec 5
Proctor Gamble	58½	57⅞
Pub Ser El & Gas	26⅛	26⅛
Raytheon	44	43⅝
RCA Corp	35⅞	36⅛
Republic Steel	27⅝	27⅝
Reynolds Ind	59⅞	60⅝
Reynolds Metal	39½	39⅛
Rockwell Int	31⅞	32⅛
Royal Dutch	44	44⅛
Safeways	27⅞	27⅞
St Regis Paper	35⅝	35⅞
Santa Fe Ind	31⅞	32
SCM	35⅞	35⅞
Schlumberger	48⅝	48⅝
Scott Paper	31⅝	32
Seagram	38⅝	39⅛
Sears Roebuck	40⅝	40½
Shell Oil	44	43½
Shell Trans	35⅛	35½
Signal Co	34⅝	34⅛
Singer	29⅞	29⅞
Smithkline Beck	58½	59⅛
Sony	14⅛	14⅛
Sth Cal Edison	41⅛	41⅛
Southern Pacific	41⅛	41⅛
Sperry Corp	44⅛	43½
Std Oil Califnia	35	35⅛
Std Oil Indiana	49⅛	49⅛
Std Oil Ohio	43⅞	43⅛
Sterling Drug	27⅞	27⅞
Stevens J P	20⅛	20
Sun Comp	41⅝	41⅞
Teledyne	155⅝	160⅝
Tenneco	38½	38½
Texaco	35⅝	35½
Texas East Corp	35⅞	36⅛
Texas Inst	134⅝	136⅝
Texas Utilities	24⅝	24⅞
Textron	33⅞	34
TWA	37⅞	36½
Travelers Corp	32⅝	32½
TRW Inc	81	81⅛
UAL Inc	34⅛	35⅝
Union Carbide	66⅝	67⅞
Union Oil Calif	27½	26
Un Pacific Corp	50⅝	50½
Uniroyal	17⅞	17⅞
United Brands	16⅝	16½
US Industries	16½	16⅝
US Steel	30	29⅝
Utd Technol	71⅞	72½
Wachovia	45⅛	45⅛
Warner Comms	23⅝	23½
Warner Lambert	28⅝	28⅝
Wells Fargo	38½	38½
Westnghse Elec	53⅝	53⅝
Weyerhauser	35½	35⅝
Whirlpool	48⅝	49
Woolworth	37⅛	37⅞
Xerox Corp	48⅝	48
Zenith	35⅛	34⅛

Canadian Prices

	Dec 6	Dec 5
Abitibi	24⅛	24½
Alcan Alumin	49⅝	49⅝
Algoma Steel	29⅝	29⅝
Bell Telephone	31½	31⅞
Cominco	60	60
Cons Bathurst	25	24½
Gulf Oil	16½	17
Hawker Sid Can	18⅛	18⅛
Imasco	34⅛	34⅛
Imperial Oil	38⅛	39
Int Pipe	32½	32½
Mass.-Fergsn	6⅛	6⅛
Royal Trustco	28½	28½
Seagram	47½	48⅝
Steel Co	29½	29⅝
Thomson N 'A'	37½	37½
Walker Hiram	28	28
WCT	15⅛	15⅛

• Ex div. a Asked c Ex distribution h Bid k Market closed n New issue p Stock split. t Traded. y Unquoted

SKIING



Happy Epple: the victor (right) cannot hide her joy from runner up Ariane Ehrat.

Epple takes the eye to win her first World Cup downhill

From John Hennessy, Val d'Isère

Irene Epple, a West German skier who was once Sebastion Coe's girlfriend, yesterday won her first World Cup downhill race after 11 years of trying.

Miss Epple, aged 26, is a giant slalom specialist by inclination having won seven of these events. But going first yesterday, she established a time for the "G" course La Daille (2,276 metres long, 620 metres vertical drop) that survived the challenge of 71 other competitors.

Her time of 1min 21.72sec was slower perhaps than training times had foreshadowed, but the weather had changed overnight, with a cloud cover to provide a flat light and a skitter of snow to remove the sheen of the day before.

Miss Epple, who has developed an affinity for Val d'Isère over the years, with two giant slalom victories there, confessed to a mistake on the latter part of the course which took her too low into one gate, and for a moment threatened her with disqualification.

It might have seemed that she had ruined her chance, for Ariane Ehrat of Switzerland, starting in the second group, reached the intermediate point in 48.72 sec, one tenth of a second faster than Miss Epple. But Miss Ehrat clearly negotiated the closing passage less well – the German's mistake notwithstanding – and finished .008 sec outside Miss Epple's time. Caroline Attia, a tiny Frenchwoman, was third, half a second or so behind Miss Ehrat.

A number of formidable skiers have stood in Miss Epple's way in the last decade – Annemarie Moser, Marie-Thérèse Nadiq and Doris de Agostini but, as she said afterwards, the block was more a psychological one within herself. It was a momentous day for her in this Olympic season, but in her modest, lear-minded way, she refused to get carried away. "There is another day tomorrow," she said, "and that could be very different. It has happened before when I have been on the verge of big things. The important point is that I've achieved one goal today, and I've been happy about that."

For Miss Ehrat, who has a smile to match the surroundings at Val d'Isère, a more tangible block was removed: with the retirement of her distinguished compatriot, Miss de Agostini, she now feels the way is open for a vital breakthrough. It eluded her only narrowly yesterday.

DOWNHILL: 1, I Epple (WG), 1 min 21.72 sec; 2, A Ehrat (Switz), 1:21.80; 3, C Attia (Fr), 1:22.34; 4, I Soelkner (Aust), 1:22.38; 5, J Gantnerova (Czech), 1:22.46; 6, H Wenzel (Liech), 1:22.49; 7, S Eder (Aust), 1:22.54; 8, M Wallser (Switz) 1:22.59; 9, M Figini (Switz), 1:22.60; 10, S Winkler (Aust), 1:22.81; 11, M Kiehl (WG), 1:22.84; 12, C Enonet (Fr), 1:22.86; 13, C Quittet (Fr), 1:23.01; 14, E Chaud (Fr) 1:23.07; 15, V Wallinger (Aust), 1:23.08.

WORLD CUP: Overall Standings: Women: 1 equal, I Epple, E Hess, 25 pts; 3 equal, A Ehrat, T McKinney (US), 20; 5 equal, C Attia, M Tlalka (Pol), 15; 7 equal, L Soelkner, O Charvatova (Czech), 12; 9 equal, J Gantnerova, C Von Grunenigen (Switz), 11; 11 equal, H Wenzel, C Cooper (US), 10; 13 equal, S Eder, A Zavadlav (Yug), 9; 15 equal, M Walliser, P Wenzel (Liech), 8. Leading teams: 1, Austria 136 pts (men 103, women 33); 2, Switzerland 114 (39/75); 3, Liecthenstein 58 (40/18); 4, United States 37 (7/30); 5, West Germany 30 (0/30).

Avon Rubber in the black

Avon Rubber has returned to the black. In the year to end September the tyres and rubber components group made pretax profits of £2.3m against losses of £1m last time.

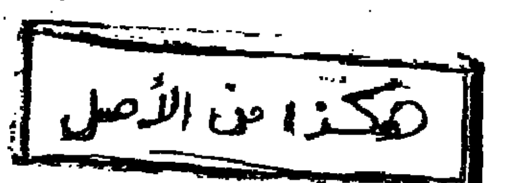
All parts of the group are expected to remain profitable in the year ahead, the company said. A final dividend of 2p is being recommended, lifting the total for the year from 1p to 3p.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	9%
Barclays	9%
BCCI	9%
Citibank Savings	†10¼%
Consolidated Crds	9%
Continental Trust	9%
C. Hoare & Co	*9%
Lloyds Bank	9%
Midland Bank	9%
Nat Westminster	9%
TSB	9%
Williams & Glyn's	9%

† Mortgage Base Rate.

* 7 day deposits on sums of under £10,000, 5½%, £10,000 up to £50,000, 6½%, £50,000 and over, 7¼%.



هكذا من الاصل

TENNIS

Champion upset as Miss Durie ignores respect

From John Ballantine, Melbourne

From Jo Durie's close shot at victory, to Martina Navratilova's garrulous attack on Miss Durie as "disrespectful to the top players", to Ivan Lendl's loo, it was all happening in the quarter finals of the Australian Open here at historic, flabbergasted Kooyong.

Miss Durie, who excitingly had taken the first set 6-4 from Miss Navratilova when rain stopped play on Tuesday night, lost the second set but broke service with some full blooded drives to lead 3-1 in the third. But she double faulted twice in one game and was 3-4 down, rallied to 4-4, but lost a magnificent match 6-4, 3-6, 4-6.

"The only way I could win was to go for it and I nearly pulled it off. I rushed my serving on my big chance and had trouble at that windy end" said Miss Durie, who very nearly climaxed a wonderful Australian season, in which she won the New South Wales Open 11 days ago, with a victory she has been declaring confidently is within her reach now.

It was this declaration and Miss Durie's expressed belief that she could become No 1 in the world that caused Miss Navratilova to criticize her afterwards.

"I'm totally shocked and surprized and it upset me to hear she had been saying these things" said Miss Navratilova. "She's never beaten Chris (Lloyd) or Andrea (Jeager) and is still not even ranked in the top 10 on the computer" (this proved wrong when new world rankings today made Miss Durie No 8).

"After our match was halted by rain several players came up and said 'you've got to beat her after this'", went on Miss Navratilova, adding "Maybe she's trying to make herself believe something in the hope it will happen."

This last remark, I believe, is part of the truth and anyway there is nothing wrong in a competitor "psyching herself up". Miss Navratilova herself indulged in some cocky positive thinking not long ago about expecting to be regarded as one of the great players of history and, in consequence, Mrs Lloyd dished out some of the same verbal rhubarb that today Miss Navratilova spooned out to Miss Durie.

During Lendl's match on the outer No. 1 court with his fellow countryman Thomas Smid, the top seed from Czechoslovakia sent for the grand prix supervisor Bill Gilmour and explained, according to Gilmour, that he urgently needed to use the toilet.

Seemingly Lendl, who had to go to the toilet twice on Monday during his match with Patrick Cash is suffering from a tear in his bladder. Once the Australians realized that Lendl was not having them on, they built a temporary toilet surrounded by canvas at the side of court and Lendl was given permission to leave court as often as was necessary, provided he was accompanied by a supervisor and was back in 90 seconds time.

MEN'S SINGLES

THIRD ROUND: T Mayotte (US) bt J Nystrom (Swe), 6-4, 6-4, 6-4.

QUARTER FINALS: M Wilander (Swe) bt J. Kriek (US), 6-3, 6-4, 7-6; J McEnroe bt W Masur (Aus), 6-2, 6-1, 6-2, T Lendl (Cz) bt T Smid (Cz), 7-6, 2-6, 6-1, 6-2; T Mayotte bt E Teltscher (US), 6-4, 6-2, 3-6, 7-6.

WOMEN'S SINGLES

QUARTER FINALS: M Navratilova (US) bt J Durie (GB), 4-6, 6-3, 6-4; Z Garrison (US) bt W Turnbull (Aus), 6-2, 7-6.

MEN'S DOUBLES

SECOND ROUND: N Edmondson and P McNamee (Aus) bt J Austin and M Leach (US), 4-6, 7-6, 6-4; N Bauer (US) and P Cash (Aus) bt N Lewis and D Mustard (NZ), 6-3, 6-4.

THIRD ROUND: Tim Gullikson and Tom Gullikson (US) bt O Dowlen (US) and N Odizor (Nig), 7-5, 6-3; D Graham and L Warder (Aus) w.o. A Jarryd and H Simonsson (Swe), scratched: Edmondson and McNamee bt D Pate and E Sherbeck (US), 6-4, 6-7, 8-6; Bauer and Cash bt K Flach and R Seguso (US), 2-6, 6-3, 6-2; N Wilander and Nystrom (Swe) bt McEnroe and P Fleming (US), 6-3, 3-6, 6-2; R Frawley and B Dyke (Aus) bt J Kriek and F Buehning (US), 6-2, 6-7, 6-3; L Bourne and Mitchell (US) bt M Dickson (US) and T Smid (Cz), 6-4, 7-6.

WOMEN'S DOUBLES

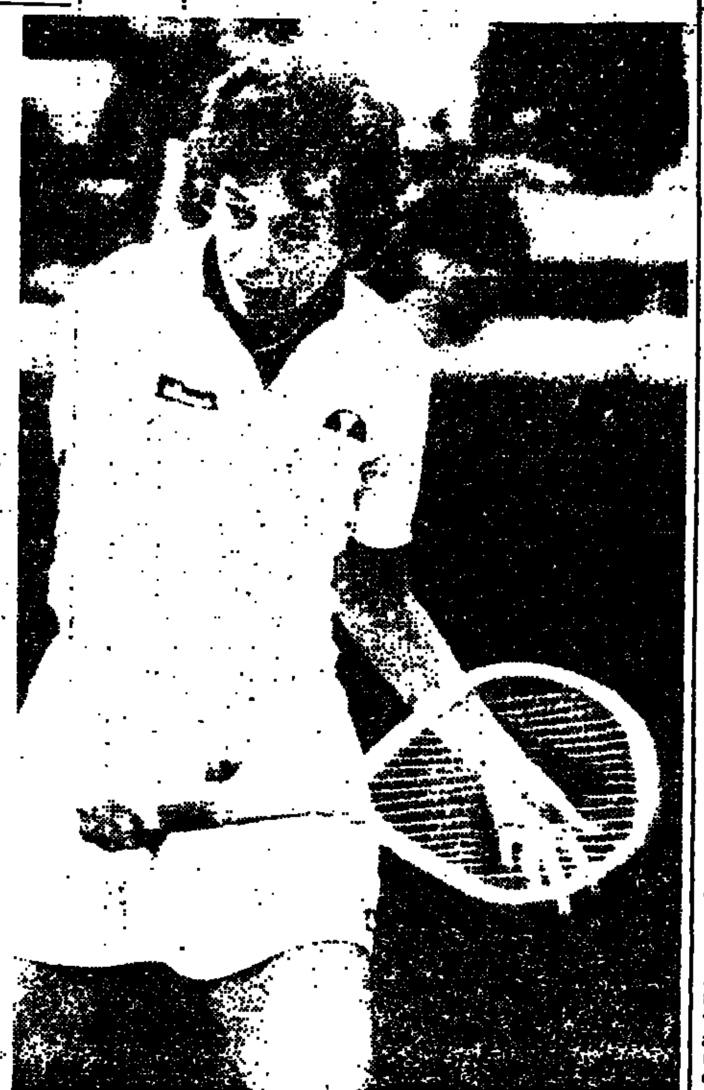
SECOND ROUND: M Navratilova and P Shriver (US) by B Jordan (US) and E Sayers (Aus), 6-2, 6-1

THIRD ROUND: K Jordan and B Potter (US) bt A Moulton and P Smith (US), 2-6, 6-1, 8-6; L W King and S Walsh (US) bt I Kloss (US) and H Ludloff (US), 4-6, 6-4, 6-0.

Vilas hearing starts today

Rotterdam (Reuter) – A committee appointed to deal with the appeal by Guillermo Vilas against a one-year suspension meets here today. Vilas was banned by the Men's International Professional Tennis Council on June 8 for allegedly receiving appearance money for playing in the Rotterdam grand prix last March. He was also fined $20,000.

The Argentine, ranked tenth in the world, has denied the allegation and a spokesman for Ahoy Sport Stadium, organizers of the Rotterdam event, said the committee would hear testimonies from about six people.



Jo Durie shows the belief that yesterday shook Martina Navratilova in Australia

Kriek loses title grip

Melbourne (Agencies) – Johan Kriek, men's singles champion here for the last two years, was beaten yesterday by Mats Wilander in the Australian Open quarter-finals. Wilander, a former French Open champion won 6-3, 6-4, 7-6 to earn a semi-final match with John McEnroe.

Wilander used his unerring accuracy and patience from the base line to frustrate the speedy little South African-born American. The Swede, who leads his country's Davis Cup squad to meet Australia in the final later this month, hurried to a 3-0 lead in the opening set after clinching a break in the first game.

Kriek broke back in the seventh game but Wilander replied immediately with a service break to recapture the lead.

It was Kriek's first appearance on the centre court this year. All his matches had been held in the outside courts until yesterday. Kriek had complained that he always seemed to get "the raw end of the deal." He vowed that he would never return for the event.

McEnroe showed his authority blitzing the unseeded Australian, Wally Masur, 6-2, 6-1, 6-2 in another quarter-final.

The top seed, Ivan Lendl, was the third competitor to reach the semi-finals when he disposed of his Czechoslovak colleague, Tomas Smid, the seventh seed, in a 7-6, 2-6, 6-1, 6-2 victory. Lendl now faces Tim Mayotte, seeded 15.

Wilander now must be worrying the Australian Davis Cup captain, Neale Fraser, with his current form with the final played at Kooyong starting December 26. When asked could Sweden win the cup, Wilander replied: "I think so, sure".

Wilander added that he could win the tourna[illegible] he contin[illegible] probably t[illegible] world. My [illegible]

Meanwh[illegible] weight to [illegible] the Austra[illegible] as impor[illegible] grand slam[illegible] bledon, the [illegible]

He said [illegible] my opinio[illegible] and the cro[illegible] can't prete[illegible] those thin[illegible]

"People [illegible] this one b[illegible] But the si[illegible] that it's ju[illegible]

YACHTING

People are frantic to sail the Atlantic

By John Nicholls

The next single-handed transatlantic race, which starts from Plymouth on June 2 next year, has been heavily over-subscribed. Organized by the Royal Western Yacht Club and sponsored by the *Observer* and the radio station Europe 1, entries have been limited to 100, after more than twice that number originally applied.

More than a quarter (27) of the starters will be Americans, the next most numerous will be 23 Frenchmen and women, followed by 19 British. The race was last held in 1980, when the American winner, Phil Weld, set a new record for the passage to Newport of 17 days 23 hours, and 12 minutes.

Weld will not be defending his trophy. Now aged 69, he considers he is too old to compete with both the North Atlantic and his rivals in what is becoming an increasingly competitive race.

The largest class will also be the biggest (45-60ft long) and includes several boats built specially for the race. Most of them are multihulls, which will be expected to lead the way across and, by winning, justify the expense to their sponsors.

To celebrate their company's 100th anniversary, the BOC Group is to sponsor a second single-handed race round the world. The first race, which ended earlier this year, attracted 17 starters, and appeared to meet a need for this sort of long distance yachting event. The next race will start from Newport, Rhode Island, in August, 1986.

Only 10 of the original starters completed the first race, three of the yachts were abandoned, though thankfully no lives were lost. In view of the lessons learned, there have been some significant changes to the rules and conditions for the next race. All yachts will have to be fitted with watertight bulkheads and a satellite monitoring transmitter. Size limits have been increased, and are now from 40ft to 60ft.

Philippe Jeantot, who won the first race, intends to go again, and, on the strength of his earlier success, he has been provided with a new 60ft catamaran for the single-handed transatlantic race.

SWIMMING

[illegible]

CRICKET

Late imports and Rackemann's withdrawal will help Pakistan

From Ian Brayshaw, Adelaide

Alarm bells ringing in the Pakistani camp have been heard back home and two quality replacements have arrived in Australia in time for the third Test which starts here tomorrow. Their arrival will bolster flagging spirits in the tourists' ranks after an innings defeat in the first Test and further humiliation before being saved by the rain in the second. A confidence-boosting victory over Victoria last weekend and yesterday's withdrawal of Carl Rackemann, Australia's leading wicket-taker in the series have further improved Pakistan's chances.

Rackemann pulled a muscle in his left side in the Sheffield Shield match between Queensland and New South Wales at Sydney last weekend. Although the injury is not serious, Rackemann will not be risked. He has taken 16 wickets in the previous tests at an average of 11.06.

The men flown in from Pakistan at short notice are Sarfraz Nawaz and Saleem Malik. Sarfraz arrived in time to play against Victoria and though he made no great impression, is certain to play in the Test. Malik reached Adelaide only yesterday and his participation will depend upon the fitness of Mansoor Akhtar.

Mansoor broke a finger the day before the second Test in which he was expected to replace an out-of-sorts Wasim Raja in the middle-order. Raja's place appears even less tenable now at he has scored just 185 runs from ten innings on the tour. With the exception of Omar, none of the Pakistan batsmen has shown anything in the Tests and Malik's class and enthusiasm may be just what the team needs.

Mudassar Naazar, the opening batsman, must surely be close to making a big Test score - he made a century in each innings against Victoria, bringing his tally of centuries in the state games to five from 10 innings.

Zaheer Abbas, on paper the best of the visiting batsmen, has shown little appetite for the task of trying to tame the Australian fast bowling. He underlined this fact last week by saying he will leave the tour immediately the Tests are over, thus missing the lucrative one-day international series against Australia and the West Indies.

On the docile Adelaide Oval wicket, there's little to suggest that the Pakistan attack, even bolstered by Safraz, will fare any better than they did in the opening two Tests when Australia batted just once each time for scores of 436–9 declared and 509–7 declared. The performances of Abdul Qadir, the leg spinner, have been disappointing with returns of 3–121 and 1–112. He must improve on these analyses if Pakistan are to level the series.

Rackemann's injury assures Dennis Lillee of a position in the side when it originally looked likely he would be twelfth man. Geoff Lawson and Rodney Hogg will open the attack with Lillee first change. Tom Hogan, the left arm spinner, comes into the side for his second Test match. The selectors chose a squad of 13 when Rackmann's injury was brought to their notice and Graeme Wood will now be twelfth man. Wood is still limping from a blow he took on the left foot but is confident he will be fit by tomorrow.

Despite Rackemann's injury everything looks rosy in the Australian dressing room. They have demoralized their opponents in the opening two Tests.

● Imran Khan, Pakistan's captain arrived in Sydney yesterday for tests on his injured left shin (Reuter reports). He is due to be examined by an orthopaedic surgeon today.

King Richards' revenge on the little princes

Jamshedpur (AFP) – The West Indies took India aback by scoring 333 runs for eight wickets off only 45 overs to win the fourth one-day cricket international against India here yesterday. India were outplayed in all departments as the West Indies won by 104 runs for their fourth successive victory on this tour. "It was a mistake for the Indians to beat us in the World Cup", the West Indies team manager, Wes Hall said.

Asked to bat first by the Indian captain, Kapil Dev, the West Indians scored 333 runs for eight wickets in 45 overs, setting a near

The West Indies started piling up runs almost from the word go, but they lost Haynes for one, with the total on 27. Thereafter, Greenidge and Richards once again joined forces for a magnificent display of attacking play, putting on 221 runs for the second wicket. The crowd chanted "King Richards, King Richards" as Antigua's most famous son pulled, hooked, cut and drove the Indians for 149.

West Indies

G Greenidge b Shastri	11[illegible]
L Haynes b Sharma	1
V Richards c Amarnath b Kapil Dev	149
Dujon lbw Sharma	50
C Lloyd c Amarnath b Kapil Dev	3
Baptiste st Kirmani b Madan Lal	1
M Marshall b Kapil Dev	5
A Roberts not out	0
R Harper b Sharma	0
M Holding not out	0
Extras	10
Total (8 ickets, 45 overs)	333

FALL OF WICKETS: 1–27, 2–248, 3–303, 4–320, 5–324, 6–331, 7–334, 8–334.

Monte Lynch should shortly be cleared to resume his Surrey career as an England-qualified player. After studying legal advice, the test and county Cricket Board have decided they cannot change his status to that of an overseas player even though he is currently on the [illegible]

Zimbabwe attack succeeds

Moratuwa (AFP) – Zimbabwe held the upper hand at the end of the second day in their three-day match against a Sri Lankan Board under-25 side here yesterday. In reply to Zimbabwe's 210 on Tuesday, the Sri Lankans were all out for 146.

Only the Sri Lankan opening batsmen, Susil Fernando (48) and Sanath Kaluperuma (22), made any impression against the varied Zimbabwean attack, putting on 75 for the first wicket. A further problem was that the Sri Lankan captain, Guy de Alwis, could not bat because of an injured knee.

SRI LANKA BOARD XI. First Innings

Susil Fernando b Hick	48
Sanath Kaluperuma b Traicos	22
Hemal Mendis c and b Hick	10
Rohan Buultjens c Curran b Traicos	9
Upul Sumathipala c Rawson b Hick	1
†Aravinda de Silva not out	23
Ravi Ratnayake st Haughton b Traicos	0
[illegible]	[illegible]

BOWLING: [illegible]

1982/83 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
		Authorized Unit Trusts			
		Abbey Unit Trust Managers, 1-3 St Pauls Churchyard EC4P 4DX 01-236 1835			
106.6	86.5	American Growth	102.8	110.5	1.60
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

1982/83 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
		Canada Life Unit Trust Managers, 2-6 High St, Potters Bar, Herts. P Bar 51122			
72.7	49.6	Canlife Gen	72.7	76.5	3.70
107.0	89.7	Do Accum	107.0	112.8	3.70
33.2	35.5	Gilt & F Int	33.1	36.8	
50.4	36.1	Income Dist	50.4	53.1	6.30
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

1982/83 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
		Guardian Royal Exchange Unit Man Ltd, Royal Exchange, London, EC3P 3DN. 01-628 8011			
182.2	135.9	Guardhill	185.1	190.6	3.32
118.5	100.6	Gilt & F.I.	118.8	121.5	9.37
104.0	99.1	Growth Equity	104.0	111.9	2.43
100.5	99.1	Nth America	97.4	104.8	1.70
110.5	107.5	Pacific	109.8	128.1	0.36
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

1982/83 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

FOOTBALL: STING IN WORLD CUP DRAW FOR HOME COUNTRIES, END OF THE TALE FOR WATFORD IN UEFA CUP

Welsh and Irish gain a chance of vengeance

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

The cobwebs were yesterday blown away from the British championship. A new and unexpected chapter was added to the 100-year-old tournament, which will fade into the history books at the end of this season, when England were paired with Northern Ireland and Scotland with Wales in the draw for the qualifying groups of the 1986 World Cup in Mexico.

England and Scotland, who will continue their own domestic argument, agreed to close the historic event and start looking for fixtures against stronger international opposition. The Irish and the Welsh, angered by the decision, will relish the opportunity that FIFA has now given them to prove their worth.

England and Northern Ireland could both go through from group three. Although Romania, one of the eight nations to reach the finals of the current European championships, represent a dangerous threat. Turkey (even though they beat the Irish some six weeks ago) and particularly Finland must be considered among the weakest sides on the continent.

Statistics can be a misleading guide to the future but England's past record against their four opponents presents a powerful reason for optimism. They have played them in a total of 103 internationals, won 78 of them and have lost only seven (and six of those to the Irish). In scoring 343 goals, they have conceded a mere 87.

England have never before met Turkey, have never failed to beat Finland (though there are lessons to be learnt from the recent experiences against their fellow Scandinavians, Norway and Denmark) and have been beaten by Northern Ireland only twice since the last war. Their one defeat by Romania was in a World Cup qualifying tie in Bucharest three years ago.

Bryan Robson, England's captain, described it as "a very good draw. Romania gave us a few problems over the two games in 1980 and they did well to get through from a tough group to the European finals. We will have to boost our goal difference against Finland and the trip to Turkey may be more awkward than the match itself."

Scotland and Wales may have only two rivals, Spain and Iceland, but they are competing for the one direct qualifying place in group seven. The runner-up must join those who finish second in the other four-team groups to play off for two more places in the finals.

The two British representatives met in the qualifying stages of the 1978 World Cup. Scotland won 1-0 at Hampden Park, but the return tie, for which Wales adopted Anfield as their home, finished in controversy. Scotland won again, 2-0, but with the assistance of a controversial penalty.

The Republic of Ireland have been thrown into a formidable group that contains the Soviet Union, Denmark, Switzerland and Norway. Eion Hand, their manager, went as far as to call it "the toughest of the lot". The incentive is there, though. Charlie Walsh, the Irish treasurer, revealed that each member of the squad will receive £2,000 if they reach Mexico.

European qualifying groups

GROUP 1: Poland, Belgium, Greece, Albania

GROUP 2: West Germany, Czechoslovakia, Sweden, Portugal, Malta

GROUP 3: England, Northern Ireland, Romania, Turkey, Finland

GROUP 4: France, Yugoslavia, East Germany, Bulgaria, Luxembourg

GROUP 5: Austria, Hungary, Netherlands, Cyprus

GROUP 6: Soviet Union, Denmark, Ireland, Switzerland, Norway

GROUP 7: Spain, Scotland, Wales, Iceland

33 candidates, 13 berths in final. Italy qualify as holders.

Snowball: Peter Schöne of Lokomotiv Leipzig (right) challenges the Sturm Graz captain, Anton Pilcher. Although Leipzig won this home UEFA cup, third round, second leg game 1-0, Sturm Graz won 2-1 on aggregate.

Austrians lose but still go through

Sturm Graz, of Austria, moved into the quarter-final round of the UEFA Cup yesterday despite a second-leg 1-0 defeat by FC Leipzig, of East Germany. The Austrians had beaten Leipzig 2-0 in the first leg.

About 20,000 people watched in the Rudolf Plache Stadium as Zoetsche scored from twenty yards in the 12th minute. The East Germans kept attacking throughout the match played in windy weather on a field partly covered with snow.

Sturm Graz, cheered by a small crowd of home supporters, prevented further scoring with a fine performance by the goalkeeper, Saria.

Moscow Spartak defeated Sparta Rotterdam 2-0, foiling a last-minute Dutch penalty to reach the quarter-final round. Gladilin scored both goals for Spartak, the first in the 42nd minute and then again in the 79th.

● MILAN (AP) – The Italian tribunal have disqualified West German player Hansi Müller for three matches for hitting an opponent during last Sunday's match between Avellino and Internazionale.

As a result, Müller, who plays in midfield for the Milanese side Internazionale, will miss crucial championship matches against Fiorentina, Juventus and Verona. He will be back into the Italian first division on January 8.

The club was considering fining Müller heavily as an additional punishment. Müller punched the Avellino defender, Biagini in the face in the final stages of the match, and minutes after he had been sent off, Avellino scored an equalizer. Disqualification from the Italian championship did not prevent Müller from playing in last night's UEFA Cup match against Austria Vienna.

Inter played Austria Vienna at Meazza Stadium in Milan in their third-round second leg match.

Watford's children shown up in front of the grown ups

From Clive White, Prague

Sparta Prague....4
Watford....0

(Sparta won 7-2 on aggregate)

Watford's children were given an embarrassing hiding by their Czechoslovak superiors in a bitterly cold classroom here yesterday afternoon. That they were going to fail this examination was never in doubt, but we hoped that it would not be quite so hopelessly and painfully.

Their confidence, if they had any, was flattened after just two minutes by a stunning Sparta goal, and from then on their minds and limbs slowly froze as they conceded three more in the first half in the face of a searching and intelligent performance by Sparta in testing conditions.

There was a chilling sensation of *déjà* the way Watford naively stood off sturdy, skilful players like Berger, Jarolim and Chovanec, just as they had done in the first leg at Vicarage Road. The opeening goal was a replica of Berger's a fortnight ago. This time Chovanec stepped easily around Jackett and from 25 yards struck a drive with the confidence of a carpenter banging home his nails. Sherwood, in his green jumper and black tights,s stood as still and peaceful as a Christmas tree in a snowy setting.

Watford never had a chance to re-group or re-think. Six minutes later Berger floated a free kick and Beznoska surged forward positively through flimsy challenges to head home. The Czechoslovaks were only warming to their task. A noisy crowd of 33,000 got right behind them, even applauding Czechoslovak throw-ins, though whether or not this was just to keep the blood circulating was difficult to discern. The firm conditions meant that the ball would often sit up obligingly for a player with the imagination to strike it; Sparta did several times.

They trod their path so confidently that one sensed they had chosen more suitable footwear. But it was all in the mind. Sparta were regularly given space within shooting distance outside the penalty area and their forwards often went unhindered inside it too.



Taylor: pat on back

Sherwood knew little about shots from Beznoska and Jarolim which bounced off him like rubber snowballs.

Watford, who were fielding eight players aged 21 or under, seemed incapable of picking out their front men as they have done so successfully in the past, and Barnes and Richardson remained forlorn, icy figures. After half an hour, Chovanec strode forward menacingly from a deep position but resisted a temptation to shoot this time, and instead unselfishly laid off the ball to the nifty Skuhravy, who swivelled to smack the Watford net again.

Six minutes later Jarolim scored after receiving from Berger, again a delicious player. Jarolim feinted to shoot and Gibbs, nervously, and perhaps not surprisingly, turned his back fearing the worst. Instead Jarolim stepped around him and shot home despite Price's efforts on the line. Watford, to their credit in the face of a blinding snowstorm and a Sparta's relentless pressure, stood their ground in the second half to emerge with a pat on the back from the manager, Graham Taylor.

"When you come up against something bigger, stronger and better than yourselves there's always a chance that this sort of thing can happen," he said.

Sparta Prague: J Olijar; J Bielik, F Straka, M Beznoska, Z Scasny (sub Z Prochazka), J Berger, J Jarolim, F Chovanec, S Griga (sub S Dostal), V Calta, T Skuhravy.
Watford: S Sherwood; N Gibbs, N Price, (sub F Cassidy), K Jackett, S Sims, P Franklin, N Callaghan, I Richardson, J Barnes, W Rostron, R Jobson (sub W Sterling).
Referee: J Coller (Turkey).

Morley set for Albion

Tony Morley, Aston Villa's former England winger, is set to join West Bromwich Albion today. The fee is likely to be around £100,000. The Villa manager, Tony Barton said yesterday that the two clubs had "more or less agred" on the fee.

Morley, who cost Villa £200,000 from Burnley four and a half years ago, would be the fourth member of Villa's 1982 European Cup winning team to leave the club this year. Albion will be hoping to complete the signing in time for Morley to play in the home game with Queen's Park Rangers on Saturday.

Sportsmanship is preserved on ice

By David Miller

Oxford University....2
Cambridge University....2

The clock was put back yesterday. Nobody was arrested at Wembley, the school children yelled at a crescendo which made the lift-man observe that he was pleased to be old enough no longer to have any, and the centennary university match was an exciting, fluctuating and tidily appropriate draw.

When a few minutes from the end Cambridge were awarded a penalty, for a trip by Craft on Harper, there was a feeling of possible harshness in the decision, but this was happily dissolved when Walsh put the kick to a convenient shoulder height for Rutledge, who took off so early he was almost over the cross-bar before the ball left the spot.

With honourable objectivity, Harper later admitted he would have to tell his great-grandchildren that, on this historic day, even he could say it might not have been a penalty. It would certainly have been inequitable for Oxofird to have lost on that one issue.

On a pitch two-thirds of which was still bone hard and giving off a puff of frost flakes every time the ball bounced, the play was of a commendable standard, Oxford dominating the first phase of each half, Cambridge the second. If Cambridge's attack, with Harper and Crook down the flanks supplying able assistance to Aspinwall, was the more fluent and imaginative in close, angled play on such a difficult surface, Oxford's direct running and power regularly threatened a suspect Cambridge defence.

Once Cambridge began accurately to knock the ball around, they reflected the ability suggested by their recent results, and Oxford's two midfield men, Smyth and Edbrooke, found themselves outmanoevered by Cambridge's quartet. Marshall was shrewdly switching play with Whyte, Walsh, Crook and Aspinwall all went reasonably close, and on the half-hour Harper blazed only inches too high from the worst foothold on the pitch.

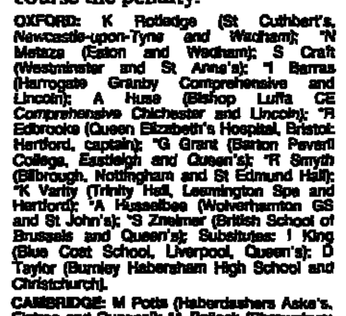
A minute later, following a header by Harper, Aspinwall headed the equalizer, but approaching half-time it was clear that Pollock would need to be replaced as Oxford pressed again; Knight came out as substitute for the second half, and almost immediately Aspinwall put Cambridge ahead with a perfectly flighted, curling shot over Rutledge.

Yet just when it might have been supposed that Cambridge would take advantage of the end with a better attacking foothold, Oxford, withdrawing forces more into midfield, began to make telling counter-attacks against a defence occasionally caught slow, square and slippy. After Marshall had headed off the line, Husselbee put Oxford level as Ed Brooke back-headed on the near post, and only a desperate tackle by Hudson kept out Grant.

In the last quarter of the match Evans replaced Marshall, Cambridge once more had the edge, Walsh and Evans might have scored – and there was of course the penalty.

OXFORD: K Rutledge (St Cuthbert's, Newcastle-upon-Tyne and Wadham); *N Metaza (Eaton and Wadham); S Craft (Westminster and St Anne's); *I Barras (Harrogate Granby Comprehensive and Lincoln); A Huse (Bishop Luffa CE Comprehensive Chichester and Lincoln); *R Edbrooke (Queen Elizabeth's Hospital, Bristol: Hertford, captain); *G Grant (Barton Peverll College, Eastleigh and Queen's); *R Smyth (Bilbrough, Nottingham and St Edmund Hall); *K Varity (Trinity Hall, Leamington Spa and Hertford); *A Husselbee (Wolverhamton GS and St John's); *S Zneimer (British School of Brussels and Queen's); Subsitutes: I King (Blue Coat School, Liverpool, Queen's); D Taylor (Burnley Habersham High School and Christchurch).

CAMBRIDGE: M Potts (Haberdashers Aske's, Elstree and Queens'); *A Pollock (Shrewsbury and Trinity); J Rentoul (Wolverhampton Grammar and Kings); *J Ironside (St Edmund's Canterbury and Trinity Hall, captain); D Hudson (Handsworth Grammar and Trinity Hall); *A Marshall (Queen Elizabeth's GS, Gainsborough and St Catherine's); *G Harper (Abingdon and St John's); A Whyte (Wolverhampton Grammar and Trinity Hall); C Aspinwall (Hutton Grammar, Preston and Homerton); *G Walsh (Barrow-in-Furness sixth form College and Trinity Hall); J Crook (King Edward sixth Grammar, Chelmsford and Homerton). Substitutes: T Knight (Batley Grammar and St Catherine's) C Evans (Wolverhampton Grammar and Fitzwilliam).
*A Blue



Sounding a charge for Whitby attack

FA CUP

Tony Lee, the manager of Whitby Town, is in no doubt about the tactics he will use when his side travel to Wigan Athletic on Saturday in the second round of the FA Cup. "We are going to attack", he said. "We know we are the underdogs, but if we were to go and defend hoping to draw or sneak a win, we would lose. We watched Wigan and feel they have weaknesses at the back that we can expoit."

Lee's confidence is based on the 46 goals his team have scored this season in 16 matches in the Northern League which they lead, and the 23 they have hit in six FA Cup games. In the last round they recovered from a 2–0 deficit to win 3–2 at Halifax Town, the first victory over a league side in the club's 87 year history.

Whitby's attack is led by Phil Linacre, aged 21, who has scored 12 of his 27 goals this season in FA Cup matches. Earlier in the year, his hopes of a full-time career in football seemed over when he was released by Hartlepool United. Since joining Whitby, however, he has attracted the attention of Newcastle United, who have given him trials in their reserve side and are likely to offer him a contract when Whitby's Cup run is over.

Three other Whitby players, Hampton, Smith and Lawrence had League experience with Hartlepool, and Lovatt made four appearances for Derby County. The experience of the rest of the side is mostly limited to the Northern League, in which nearly all the leading non-League clubs in the north-east play.

Lee, aged 36, who runs a taxi business, has been manager of Whitby for more than three years.

"I know from my days there what a cup run can do to a club and a town", he said. "Last week more than 1,000 people watched us draw with Blyth and before the match there were lads all around the town wearing our colours. I'd never seen anything like that before in Whitby."

More than 1,000 Whitby supporters travelled to Halifax and up to 1,500 are expected at Wigan, where they have every reason to be confident. Whitby, beaten only once this season, have reached this stage of the Cup despite being drawn away five times out of six and Wigan, who a decade ago were the most famous Cup giant-killers in the country, have already been beaten at home four times

Paul Newman

Derby aim for private cash

Derby County withdrew their request for financial help from Derby City Council yesterday and announced that they now intend to pursue possibilities in the private sector to see them through their money troubles. The council were due to make a decision on Derby's request at a special meeting on Thursday, but Derby have asked for the matter to be dropped.

In a letter to the council leader, Mick Walker, the Derby chairman, John Kirkland said: "We now feel we can effect econmomies and explore other avenues of short term financial asistance." The club will announce details of this new package of rescue measures on Friday.

Lyall still has faith in Cottee

Tony Cottee has been reassured by the West Ham United manager, John Lyall, that he will not be dropped after missing three fine chances in the 2-0 extra time Milk Cup defeat at Everton on Tuesday night.

West Ham mow face a fight to get their injured players fit for the important home League game with Arsenal on Saturday. Alan Devonshire missed the Everton march with a hamstring strain while Whitton (calf injury) and Stewart (bruised hip) joined Bonds. Goddard and Allen on the casualty list.

TUESDAY'S RESULTS

MILK CUP: Fourth round replay: Everton 2, West Ham United 0 (aet; score after 90 min 0-0; Everton away to Manchester United or Oxford United).
SECOND DIVISION: Chelsea 6, Swansea City 1.
SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Premier division: Dorchester 4, Fareham 0; Stourbridge 1, Dartford 3. Cup: Third round replay: Witney 0, Gloucester 3.
CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Sheffield Wednesday 1, West Bromwich Albion 5. Second division: Blackpool 2, Barnsley 0.
FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Fulham 1, Brighton 1; Swindon 2, Southampton 3.
ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Hayes 2, Slough 1; Hitchin 1, Leytonstone and Ilford 0. First division: Farnborough 3, Walton and Hersham 2; Maidenhead United 1, Hampton 2. Second division: Corinthian-Casuals 2, Letchworth 0; Eastbourne United 0, Dorking 5; Finchley 0, Egham 2; St Albans 4, Hemel Hemstead 1. Cup: Third round: Averley 0, Wembley 2; Bromley 1, Sutton United 2; Clapton 2, Basildon 3; Dulwich Hamlet 2, Oxford City 4; Staines 1, Wokingham 2.
FA VASE: Second round replay: Uxbridge 3, Barton 1.
HERTS SENIOR CUP: Second round: Hoddesdon 0, Bishop's Stortford 1.
FA YOUTH CUP: Second round: Brentford 3, Barking 2; Gillingham 0, Luton 4; Orient 1, Ipswich 3.
REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: Kenya 0, Switzerland 0.
SCHOOLS: Ardingly six-a-side: Winners: Brighton; Plate: Haywards Heath VI Form College.

RUGBY UNION

UNIVERSITY MATCH: Oxford 9, Cambridge 20.
CLUB MATCHES: Cross Keys 19, Tredegar 10; Roundhay 25, Huddersfield 9.
COURAGE FLOODLIGHT CUP: Final: Sidcup 4, Blackheath 18.
SCOTTISH INTER-DISTRICT: South of Scotland 44, North and Midlands 6.
SCHOOLS: Charterhouse 2, Westminster 2; KCS Wimbledon 27, Wrekin 11; Malvern 3, Repton 1; Warrington HS 6, Maidstone GS 18.

Nobody gains and everyone loses when supporters stay away

Does anyone want to move Luton to Milton Keynes

There can be no more inaptly named organization than the one called Supporters of Luton Town 1983. Far from supporting the club, they appear to wish only to destroy it. They have announced publicly that they would be happier for the club to go out of existence than to make the proposed 20-mile move to Milton Keynes. The organization seems committed to the moving, profoundly thoughtful, moral philosophy which states that, if you don't want your little brother to play with your Action Man doll, the sensible thing to do is to disembowel Action Man and rend him limb from plastic limb.

The Luton board argue that the move to Milton Keynes is essential for survival. The future lies, they say, in a space-age stadium with a roof and no end of on-going multi-use leisure interface situation facilities.

The supporters don't want to go to Milton Keynes. Here they have my sympathy. Indeeds, one of the great pleasures of my life is not going to Milton Keynes, where I subbed the *Stratford Express* in days of yore. The logistics of travelling from, say, Harpenden to Milton Keynes are enough to daunt any enthusiast, who must interface with changes of bus and similar excitement.

All of which brings us to a match last Saturday, between the clubs then fifth and sixth in the first division, who fought it out before a "crowd" of 10,698. Perhaps it was as much disenchantment with a club preparing to abandon its home as any organized boycott by the "supporters" group, but those who stayed away missed a cracker, in which the visiting Coventry lads won 4-2, thanks to some of the open-hearted generosity that is traditionally diagnostic of the Luton defender.

Increasing the losses

The "supporters" leafleted the crowd with their plans for a meeting of Luton season-ticket holders at which "they will be asked to sign a pledge not to renew their tickets this summer". The notice added gloatingly: "with many advertisers and sponsors also threatening to refuse cash aid, the present £9,000 a week loss will be increased sharply."

There are plenty of stories flying about to add to the state of confusion and resentment that could yet overwhelm the club. One features a group of businessmen keen to buy out the present board and keep the club in Luton; another involves threats to sell off Luton's more spectacularly gifted players to build financial barriers against such an invasion, a story naturally followed by stories of David Pleat, the team manager, vowing to resign if such a thing came to pass. Obviously, the stories continue, he will get the Arsenal job.

All of which meant that Pleat was in a cautious as well as chastened mood after Saturday's match. "I'm wary of being misquoted on this issue; but I do think that the more people who come here, the greater the depth of feeling they show for the club to remain here. I can't see the sense in staying away. I'd like them to come." He added, somewhat plaintively: "There's always a lot of goals here."

Self-creating superleague

There has been much talk of superleagues of late, prompted by the *de facto* dominance of the big clubs in English competitions: Liverpool, Manchester United, Tottenham Hotspur and a few others seem to carve up the cake as they like. The remarks of the Birmingham City manager, Ron Saunders, were much to the point: "Five or six top clubs have the ability to buy all the cream. They will get richer, and the rest of us will get poorer. The superleague is creating itself."

It was a delight, then, to watch two clubs keeping such a day of doom at bay, two clubs quite definitely from the Clark Kent league. Buried deep, in a time capsule, in the desk of *The Times* sub-editor, Vince Wright, are the entries for the great *Times* predictions competiton. Among other terrifying tasks, we fellow hacks are required to predict the clubs to be relegated from the first division. How many of us, I wonder, have placed Coventry, totally dismantled and stuck together with Sellotape in the summer, and Luton, missing out on relegation last season by a mere whisker, in that category?

I hope we are still blushing at the end of the season.

Simon Barnes

IN BRIEF

Kaylor fined £500 for late punches

Mark Kaylor, the British and Commonwealth Middleweight Champion, has been fined £500 for hitting his opponent, Antonio Cerda, after the bell in a contest at Wembley Arena on November 22. The money was taken out of an estimated purse of £6,000 by the Southern Area Council of the Boxing board of Control after evidence had been given at the hearing in London last night by Harry Gibbs, the referee, Kaylor, and Terry Lawless, his manager.

Lawless was given permission to set up a television in the board's offices. He showed video-recordings of the Wembley incident in which Kaylor hit his opponent twice after the bell in the ninth round, and similar incidents from three other contests. Kaylor, who sacrificed his unbeaten record with this disqualification, said: "I am not too choked. I have been having nightmares that they were going to fine me the whole £3,000 that they held back from my purse on the night."

More boxing, P23

MOTOR RACING: Jack Ickx and Derek Bell, both driving Porshes: had the fastest laps in yesterday's unofficial practice for Saturday's 1,000 kilometre Castrol Endurance Race at Kyalami, South Africa.

CYCLING: Urs Freuler has been voted Swiss sportsman of the year for the second successive year. Doris de Agostini, last season's World Cup downhill skiing champion, now retired, was best sportswoman.

BASKETBALL: Crystal Palace will meet Maccabi Ramat-Gan in the Korac Cup with the away game on December 14 and the home leg on January 25.

FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: New Jersey Nets 114, Cleveland Cavaliers 105; Denver Nuggets 117, New York Knicks 112; Atlanta Hawks 95, Phoenix Suns 88; Boston Celtics 118, Chicago Bulls 105; Washington Bullets 113, Houston Rockets 109; Kansas City Kings 112, Dallas Mavericks 103; Portland Trail Blazers 130, San Antonio Spurs 118; Golden State Warriors 108, Seattle Supersonics 103.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Quebec Nordiques 8, Calgary Flames 1; Montreal Canadiens 4, Hartford Whalers 1; Boston Bruins 5, Pittsburgh Penguins 3; St Louis Blues 8, Buffalo Sabres 2; New York Islanders 5, Vancouver Canucks 2.

GOLF

NEW DELHI: All-India Amateur Championship: Second round: G McGimpsey (GB) bt Krishna Thapar (India), 8and 8; J Huggan bt Bobby Monga (India), 3 and 2.

FOOTBALL

MID-WEEK LEAGUE: Portsmouth 2, Southend United 1.
UAU CHAMPIONSHIP: Challenge Round: Bristol 1, Warwick 3; Leeds 4, Brunel 2; Swansea 5, Lancaster 0. Postponed: Loughborough v Manchester.

RUGBY UNION

UAU CHAMPIONSHIP: Challenge Round: Cardiff 11, Leeds 6; Exeter 38, Brunel 9; Nottingham 12, Bristol 9; Surrey 6, Leicester 17. Postponed: Loughborough v Manchester.
SCHOOLS RESULTS: Allhallows 7, Wellington (Somerset) 0; Lord Wandsworth 19, St George's, Weybridge 7; Maidstone GS 12, St Dunstan's, Catford 10; St Benedict's, Ealing 11, Watford GS 6; Shiplake 3, Oratory 3; Sutton Valence 10, Emanuel 3; Windsor GS 6, Sir William Borlase's 24.

ICE SKATING

SAPPORO, JAPAN: World Junior Figure Skating Championship: Ice dance, compulsory. 1, E Krykanova and E Platov (USSR), 0.6 pts; 2, C Yatsuhashi and Keith Yatsuhashi (US), 1.2; 3, C Horton and Michael Farrington (Can), 1.8. Men's individual (after short programme): 1, T Cerniak (US), 1.8; 2, M Ferland (Can), 2.0; 3, V Petrenko (USSR), 2.2. Pairs final, free skating: 1, M Landgrf and I Steuer (EG), 1.8; 2, S Dungjen and J Dungjen (US), 3.2; 3, Olga Neizvestnaia and S Khudiakov (USSR), 3.4. British placing: 9, L Cushley and N Cushley, 12.6.

HOCKEY

BRITISH POLYTECHNICS: Sports Association Cup: Third round: Kingston Polytechnic 0, Bristol Polytechnic 1; Bristol Polytechnic 3, Brighton Polytechnic 1.
UAU CHAMPIONSHIP: Challenge Round (men): Bangor 1, UCL 2; Durham 2, Brunel 1; Loughborough 8, Leeds 1; Nottingham 1, Exeter 0; Sussex 2, Hull 3.
UAU CHAMPIONSHIP: Challenge Round: Bradford 1, Exeter 2; Bristol 3, Sussex 0; Durham 1, Leeds 0; Loughborough 10, Kent 0.

BOXING: BRUNO IS WALTZED TO TOP TEN TUNE

A South African trapdoor for a pantomime king?

By Srikumar Sen, Boxing Correspondent

There may be a touch of the old show business about boxing, but there was a large helping of farce when the 16st Walter Santemore, of New Orleans, standing 6ft 5½in, met Frank Bruno on Tuesday night.

One moment the American was doing the Riverboat Shuffle and the next he was dancing on tiptoe. He hit Bruno everywhere but on the target, and when in the fourth round the local hero sent him flying with a blow high on the head, it looked more like an exit into the wings than a knockout. I had half expected the big, flabby American to be winched up on wires and disappear like a pantomime fairy into the dome of the Albert Hall.

If that was boxing, then I must be Mother Goose!

When one looks at Santemore's experience of two and a half years as chief sparring partner of Gerry Cooney, and his win over Ernie Shavers, his defeat at the hands of John Tate and James Quick Tillis, and this year a points defeat by Eddie Gregg, Santemore's performance makes no sense.

The Bruno supporters who came to see him hammer the Louisiana giant, loved every moment of it, but television viewers will have found little to cheer. It was clear that the scar tissue on Santemore's face would not stand up to Bruno's punches, and it was not long before blood was pouring from Santemore's left eyebrow and cheek. There had hardly been enough action to cause such damage.

Thereafter, the big America either went into a solo dance routine or grabbed hold of Bruno and made him his partner for a slow waltz. It was pathetic after this to see such a big man hit the floor from a punch that most good heavy-weights would have taken in their stride.

After the bout, Bruno said that he was going to have a rest. This was strange, coming from a fitness fanatic who lives for boxing. He seemed to have had enough of boxing in Britain: But he believes that people are just waiting for him to be pulled down. He wants to go to America to get away from it all, and box there. His elevation to the top ten of the World Boxing Association list should bring him paying work the other side of the Atlantic, if he does hop on a plane.

Because of the WBA's connections with South Africa and the sudden appearance of Bruno in their ratings, it would not surprise me if, as an official world contender, he even had an offer from South Africa to meet Gerrie Coetzee, if the world champion's match, with Holmes for the undisputed world title does not come off. As a top black boxer, Bruno could slot neatly into the South African propaganda machine.

If he were to be offered, say, a quarter of a million dollars to meet Coetzee in Sun City, Bophuthatswana, South Africa, what would he do? He could take on the South African and knock him out – he certainly has the punch to do it – or he could still be beaten by Coetzee, have a suitcase full of dollars and still have his whole career ahead of him at 21.


Bruno: thinks people are just waiting for his fall

Boxing clever

Eight national champions are included in West Germany's amateur boxing team to meet England at Hull on December 12. The super-heavyweight, Peter Hussing has been national champion since 1969, Stefan Gertel has won five bantamweight championships, and the middleweight, Dieter Weinand, three. Only four of the England side that defeated United States 7-5 last month will reappear

Hats off to Coetzee

Johannesburg (Reuter) – Gerrie Coetzee of South Africa, the World Boxing Association heavyweight champion, was accused yesterday of administering a deliberate snub to the South African press after he failed to attend a banquet at which he was due to be honoured as the sports star of the year. Coetzee's silver trophy was presented instead to his father, Flip Coetzee, by the visiting British Conservative Member of Parliament, John Carlisle.

Today's fixtures

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

FOOTBALL

FA YOUTH CUP: Second round: Wolverhampton Wanderers v Barnsley (7.0); Sheffield Wednesday v Walsall; Chelsea v Charlton Athletic (7.0); AP Leamington v Crystal Palace; Brentford v Leatherhead; Brighton and Hove Albion v Norwich City (7.15); Derby County v Coventry City (7.0). Second round replay: Swindon Town v Southampton.

RUGBY UNION

SCHOOLS MATCH: Chandos House v Loretto.

OTHER SPORT:

SNOOKER: Pro-celebrity tournament (at Leeds).

A golfer who repented and gained maturity

The new Brown is ready for export

Twice in two years Ken Brown was indicted for "not trying". In the 1979 Ryder Cup match he refused to communicate with his partner, Des Smyth. The result? A seven and six hammering from Hale Irwin and Tom Kite, a £1,000 fine and a one-year international disqualification.

Then, in the 1981 Martini International, he was "sacked" by his caddie. Infuriated by Brown's inept performance, the caddie stalked off the Wentworth course in mid-round. He charged his employer with lack of effort and chastized him for his insouciance. Brown did not deny the accusation.

In fact, he remained unrepentant. That is, until this year. Last winter, at home in Harpenden, he took stock of his life. His career had yielded one win, the Carrolls Irish Open in 1978, for almost 10 years hard labour as a professional. And it had been hard labour. Few golfers frequent the practice ground like Brown.

From this self-examination emerged an acceptance that his own foolishness was clouding his talent. "What happened at the Ryder Cup in 1979 was sad, very sad, and quite ridiculous," Brown says now. He chides himself: "I should have been sent home.

"But the real problem was much deeper. I was living with a negative approach which sometimes led to silly statements.

"Strangely it helped when Hitachi offered to sponsor me at the start of this year. That suggested that a company actually had faith in me. And I began to work on being more positive, recalling situations with greats like Gary Player. With his never-say-die approach you can rarely go wrong."

His negative approach stemmed from a belief that he needed to protect himself from failure. It was a self-destructive philosophy. At Muirfield in 1980 he entered the last round of the Open sharing second position. Unfortunately, Tom Watson was the man ahead of him – four strokes ahead of him at that.

Brown faced the press and the inevitable barrage of questions relating to his prospects of winning. With one sentence he silenced the gathering. "Look, I haven't got a chance", he muttered. "Watson ahead of me. Lee Trevino level with me. There isn't a hope . . ."

That evening Brown sat morosely in the seclusion of his private world. It seemed like that with him quite a lot of the time. In reality it was his shyness that held him aloof.

Like a good wine Brown needed the years to mature. And when the cork was popped on his 1983 campaign it quickly became apparent that at last he was ready. He won the Kenya Open on the safari circuit. Then came success in the Dutch Open and by the end of the European season he was seventh in the official money list, compared with twenty-third in 1982.

What mattered even more to Brown was that a £4,000 investment to participate in the US PGA tour school paid off. Last month he won the right to compete on next year's American circuit.

He earned his card first by finishing fifth in a 72-hole regional qualifying event at Bear Creek, Dallas, where only the leading 12 of 120 competitors progressed. The came the 100-hole final qualifier on the demanding Tournament Players' Championship course at Sawgrass in Florida where he comfortably earned his dream ticket. And he insisted: "I played only reasonaby. But I tried like hell. I didn't give up. Not once. Not on one shot.

"That's the difference. It's a more relaxed attitude and a positive approach which has been the key. It didn't allow me to function. In each round there are crunch times, moments of crisis, and in the past when I came face to face with mine it meant disaster."

Mañuel Piñero and Jose Canizares of Spain defend their World Cup title against 31 other two-man teams beginning at the immaculate 7,000-yard Pondok Indah course in Jakarta today.

Ken Brown and Bernard Gallacher will represent Scotland in the absence of Sandy Lyle, who won the individual title in 1980. England, without Nick Faldo, rely on Gordon Brand senior and Brian Waites. Eamonn Darcy and Ronan Rafferty represent Ireland and Ian Woosnam and David Vaughan play for Wales.

When he returns from Indonesia next week after representing Scotland in the World Cup, Brown will barely have time to celebrate Christmas and the New Year at home with his girlfriend, Dawn, before preparing for the American circuit.

"I'm card holder number 145 which means that I should be able to tee up next week on their all-exempt tour." But as a precaution I've written to several sponsors seeking invitations.

"I'm looking forward to the challenge. My basic aim is to play the mandatory 15 events and make enough dollars to keep my card. If you like, I'll be following the pattern set by Nick Faldo over the last couple of years. And, if all goes well, then I'll probably only play the bigger events in Europe."

What is most refreshing about Brown is that he regards the Ryder Cup as the high spot of his year of individual success. "I played well, but what gave me greater satisfaction is that I enjoyed the whole week," he says. "The only disappointment was that we didn't win. But we proved it's only a matter of time.

They might have to watch out on their own circuit in the new year when Brown joins the European task force led by Severiano Ballesteros and Faldo.

Mitchell Platts


Brown: out of the rough at last

Road to Curtis Cup win

The captain of the British Curtis Cup team, Diane Bailey does not think it will take too great an effort for her players to end America's domination of the competiton at Muirfield in June. The United States hold a 19-3 lead in the series and the last time Britain and Ireland won was in 1956.

The squad of 12 has just had two days together, at Moon Valley, receiving help from John Jacobs, the former Ryder Cup captain. They will meet again at Muirfield in April, after which the team will be selected.

Lane's world title shot

Barry Lane, who has struggled for financial survival since he turned professional seven years ago, can become a world champion this week. The Downshire golfer, aged 23, has a chance of winning the inaugural world assistants title, sponsored by Footjoy in Orlando, Florida.

Lane, who has had to attend the European tour qualifying school five times, earned the trip by winning the United Kingdom title, also sponsored by Footjoy, at Coombe Hill in August. He will be playing for a first prize of £3,000.

RUGBY LEAGUE

British to be fit for Australians

By Keith Macklin

For the first time ever, a Great Britain touring team will take with them a "fitness consultant". Yesterday at a meeting of the Rugby League Council in Leeds, it was decided that the normal tour management team for the 1984 trip to Australasia will include Rod McKenzie, senior lecturer in physical education at Carnegie College, Leeds. The manager will be Dick Gemmell, the coach Frank Myler and the physiotherapist, Ronnie Barritt. An assistant manager will be selected next month.

A touring party of 30 players, to be selected nearer the time, wil be sponsored by Modern Maintenance Products to the sum of £100,000 during the trip to Australia, New Zealand and Papua New Guinea, starting in May.

● Fears that Bramley would have to wind up mounted yesterday as Stephen Gale, their solicitor, admitted they were going ahead with plans to liquidate at a shareholders' meeting in Leeds.

"We have not had any success with our efforts to save the club," said Mr Gale. "We have no alternative but to prepare to liquidate."

IN BRIEF

Yorkshire support for Appleyard peace plan

Strong support for what has become known as the "Appleyard peace plan" came last night from Reg Kirk, one of Yorkshire Cricket Club's leading members involved in the attempt to bring about the reinstatement of Geoff Boycott.

The former Yorkshire and England bowler, Bob Appleyard has proposed that Boycott should be engaged for one more year, and bat No 5 in the order.

Mr Kirk, Hull's representative in the club's general committee and also a leading member of the pro-Boycott group, Yorkshire Members 1984, said: "I'm didappointed to see that the committee are making no efforts to find a peaceful solution when, by their own admission, the cost of this dispute is now around £25,000.

I, and my colleagues, think that Bob Appleyard's suggestion would be acceptable to 90 per cent of the membership."

TENNIS: Silk Cut are sponsoring their inter-club championships again next year. The event will be played throughout the summer with players competing for prized worth almost £9,000.

TABLE TENNIS: (AFP) – Desmond Douglas beat Jacques Secretin of France 21-18, 21-14 in the final of the Pondus Cup in Copenhagen. The English champion beat Jan-Ove Waldner, winner of the recent Scandinavian Open, 21-14, 21-18 in the semi-finals.

ATHLETICS: Steve Ovett has extended his sponsorship agreement with U-Bix for a third year. Ovett plans to spend March and April in Australia but has nithing set for early 1984. "I take things as they come", he said. "I didn't know until last Wednesday that I would do a 10 kilometres road race in Battersea last Sunday."

● Lincoln Asquith, gold medal winner in the 100 metres at the Euripean junior championships this year, has been awarded the Ken Allright Trophy, as the junior with the season's most outstanding performances.

GYMNASTICS: Lisa Young, aged 17, from Whitchurch, Shropshire replaces the injured Natalie Davies in Britain's team for the Coca Cola international at Wembley this weekend.

SQUASH: Deanna Murray, the most capped player in Welsh history, has been forced into retirement because of injury. Miss Murray, aged 34, who has been Welsh number one for 10 years and has won 56 caps, has a knee injury which is so severe she cannot train.

HOCKEY: Loughborough University beat Leeds University 8-1 in the UAU Challenge yesterday. Two goals up at half-time, Loughborough dominated from then on.

RALLYCROSS

Schanche unveils his latest

Martin Schanche, three times European champion, has unveiled the car he hopes will take him to victory in this weekend's British Rallycross Grand Prix, sponsored by Motaquip, at Brands Hatch. The Norwegian has prepared a MK3 Ford Escort which could prove more than a match for the Audi Quattros and Porsches.

Propelled by a powerful 1800cc turbo-charged engine, the Escort's secret lies in a specially-developed four-wheel drive arrangement which like the Quattro, endows it with outstanding traction and acceleration – prime factors in Rallycross. The car has been built by Gartrac Fabrications, of Godalming, using a Zakspeed engine from Germany.

The two-day grand prix meeting, the top event in rallycross, has attracted entries from all over Europe. Since unveiling the new Escort, Schanche has become favourite to beat Rolf Nilsson (Porsche), last year's winner, and Olle Arnesson (Audi Quattro), the current European champion. British hopes rest with Trevor Hopkins, last year's runner-up, in his Plasmor Fiesta, Keith Ripp, the reigning British champion, also in a Fiesta, and John Welch in a turbo-charged MK2 Escort.

RACING: JOCKEY CLUB NAME RIDERS INVOLVED IN RACE-FIXING

Aintree's longest runner will be brought down next year

By Michael Phillips, Racing Correspondent

After years and years of uncertainty Aintree and the Grand National may at last be safe, but not so those age old rickety stands which have witnessed so many remarkable happenings during the history of this unique race. Next year is likely to be the last that we will see of them.

Having been checked and passed for safety by the local authority, they will be used for the 1984 meeting which will run from March 29 – 31. But after that they are likely to be pulled down. In consultation with professional advisers decisions have already been taken in principle for the demolition of the Tattersalls and Silver Ring *stands after next year's meeting*, subject to permission being granted in relation to historic buildings.

It is expected that the demolition of the County Stand will follow soon afterwards. Temporary stands constructed on scaffolding; not unlike those which have proven so successful at Open golf championships, may replace them. It is felt that along with a tenteed village of the sort which is now a successful feature at the Cheltenham National Hunt Festival they will suffice.

The idea of another new permanent stand being built during the next decade has not been thrown out, but for the time being it can only be a pipedream. With racing's overall finances in their present parlous state the likelihood of the newly – structured Aintree Racecourse Company being able to find sufficient funds to be able to underwrite the cost of a worthwhile construction must be remote.

However the door has not been shut on the idea because there is still a faint possibility that a muti-purpose building could be built in harmony with the Merseyside County Council, one which would serve the local community well for 365 days a year instead of racing for just three.

Discussions have already been held with the council and other local authorities to see how they could best help with the future development of Aintree and particularly with the use of the land beyond the Melling Road for recreational purposes. With the uncertainty over the course's future now a thing of the past it is much easier for everyone involved to plan early.

The new-found freedom is well illustrated by the appointment of Peter Greenall to the board; the appointment of a new caterers and the announcement of a replacement for the current general manager, Roderick Fabricius, who will leave next May to concentrate on his work at Goodwood, where he is clerk of the course and general manager.

The appointment of Greenall is an inspired one.

A former leading amateur rider on two occasions he has his roots firmly established in the morht-west and he is already a steward at Haydock Park where his company, Greenall Whitley, sponsor a big steeple chase annually. This year Greenall has shown his feeling in depth for the sport by undetaking to organize Ron Barry's testimonial which is the first of its kind in racing.

With another leading amateur rider Christopher Collins as chairman the new Aintree board will certainly have its finger on the pulse.

Next year's meeting will be Fabricius's last after a run of eight years.

As for the course itself, work has been underway for some considerable time in a way that would never have been possible when its future was still shrouded in uncertainty. Over £30,000 has been spent on general improvements including the re-siting of the perimiter fencing by the central course enclosure so increasing its size by 50 per cent.

Next year the Grand National will be sponsored for the first time by Seagram Distillers whose decision to become involved financially when negotiations between representatives of the Jockey Club and the course's former owner, Bill Davies, had reached a critical stage last spring now appears to have been an even greater bonus than it looked at the time.

Aintree racecourse was purchased in May by the trustees of the Grand National appeal for £3.4m. That figure was made up by £2m from the trust, £1m on an interest-free loan from the Levy Board repayable over a maximum of 15 years and £400,000 from Seagrams, who at the same time undertook to sponsor the National for a minimum of five years At that time considerable sums had been promised but not yet received by the Grand National appeal.

So Racecourse Holding's Trust, which is Aintree's parent company, were obliged to borrow the balance in order to enable the trustees to complete the purchase. Most of those borrowings have been repaid, but now it transpires that some donations to the appeal which had been promised have not been forthcoming. That means that there could still be a shortfall of some £200,000.

John Francome will be hoping for more winners at Uttoxeter today as he sets about the task of reducing John O'Neill's long lead at the top of the table. Nialan (3.0), who has been runner-up to Absaroke and Jowoody this season and Morvern (3.30) should oblige.

However, Kyoto, his mount in the Sudbury Novices' Steeplechase, is likely to be thwarted by Gamble Hall, just so long as my selection does not make the same sort of silly mistake that cost him so dearly at Wolverhampton recently. On that occasion, he had only to jump the last fence to win, but he failed to do so, and fell.

Meanwhile, at Carlisle, O'Neill looks to have a good chance of at least countering Francome's ever-menacing challenge by winning the Cumwhinton Handicap Steeplechase on Final Argument.

Chris Collins: one of the two leading amateur riders on the Aintree Board

Champion again

Yves Saint-Martin ensured victory in the French jockeys' title when he rode Mallarci to win the Prix de Cabries at Marseilles yesterday. He now leads his main rival, Freddie Head, by 124 victories to 122 and with just one race remaining for the season at Marseilles on Saturday, cannot be caught. Saint-Martin has won the "Cravache D'or" 15 times. He was first champion in 1960 – the year Lester Piggott took the first of his 11 titles.

Jockeys to face bribery charges

Three leading jockeys are to appear before racing's overlords, the Jockey Club, in connection with allegations of bribery. Billy Newnes, Nigel Day and Brian Taylor were named yesterday after investigations by Racecourse Security Services into the claim by a national newspaper of race-fixing on the Flat. The newspaper alleged that a number of jockeys received gifts or money from a wealthy Derbyshire gambler, Harry Bardsley.

The Jockey Club said in a statement: "As a result of investigations carried out by Racecourse Security Services into a national newspaper allegations of bribery, the Stewards of the Jockey Club confirm that Mr Billy Newnes, Mr Nigel Day, Mr Brian Taylor and Mr Harry Bardsley will appear before the disciplinary committee in due course, in respect of possible breaches of the rules of racing.

"No date has yet been arranged for these inquiries, but in the interests of the public they will be brought forward as soon as possible."

If the allegations are substantiated all three could lose their licences to ride. In August The Sun reported that Mr Bardsley has alleged that he had 15 jockeys on his payroll prepared to take part in race-fixing. All the jockeys named were then interviewed by Peter Smiles, head of Racecourse Security Services – the turf's "police force."

The statements were passed to the Director of Public Prosecutions but were returned after a decision that no criminal charges should be brought.

Boreen Deas surprises

Michael Cunningham was asked to appear before the stewards at Naas yesterday afternoon after his four-year-old, Boreen Deas, had provided a 33-1 surprise by beating some of Ireland's best jumpers in the Racehorse Trainers Association Hurdle. Our Irish Correspondent writes. He explained that Boreen Deas did not go well for Seamus Brady in his previous race and that the substitution of Joe Byrne resulted in the horse running a much better race on this occasion

John O'Neill came over to renew his partnership with the recent Ascot winner Dawn Run, and the partnership attempted to make all the running. Dawn Run was never allowed to build up a commanding lead, however, and, as she started to tire between the final two flights, Boreen Deas emerged as a strong challenger. Dawn Run made her only jumping mistake at the last and this gave the initiative to the younger horse who went away to score by three lengths.

The disappointment of yesterday's race was this year's Champion Hurdle runner-up, Boreen Prince

Uttoxeter

1.0 SUDBURY CHASE (5-y-o: novices: £1,103: 2m 1f) (8 runners)

1 11f041 KYOTO (B Monkhouse) J Jenkins 11-10 ... J Francome
3 p00-p3 BORIOLI (Maj R Harden) R Tate 10-12 ... –
4 p33-u02 CAL MAL (K Dunn) K Dunn 10-12 ... Mr P Schofield 4
6 2400-2f GAMBLE HALL (Lord Coventry) M Tate 10-12 ... P Scudamore
8 029-33f HOPE END (Mrs Y Allsop) J Old 10-12 ... –
10 0pf0p-p PERPETUALLY BLYTHE (Blythe Hall Farm Ltd) E Carter 10-12 ... D Dutton
14 000f0-0 TOUCOR (A Steven) D Ancil 10-12 ... A Webber
15 069-433 ALABAMA (B) (F Jackson) W Clay 10-7 ... M Brennan

11-8 Gamble Hall, 5-2 Kyoto, 8 Alabama, 10 Berioli, 16 Cal Mal, Hope End, 25 others.

1.30 CUBLEY HURDLE (selling handicap: £643: 2m 4f) (11)

1 /000-00 BRACAGH LADY (E Carter) E Carter 5-11-13 ... D Dutton
6 000020- GOLD FLOOR (Mrs R Bradley) J M Bradley 6-11-4 ... Miss S James 7
8 001-000 RUSSIAN SALAD (E Jones) F Jordan 4-11-2 ... K Mooney
10 0-04304 TUMBLE JIM (B) (Herondata Ltd) M Naughton 4-10-13 ... M Dwyer
14 000221 PROBABILIST (B) (J Jardine) W Clay 4-10-9 ... P Dever 7
15 0f00-0 LARK'S LADY (B) (R Jaines) K Morgan 5-10-9 ... –
16 0f2-0f0 HIGH BARN (A Burton) H Fleming 4-10-8 ... –
17 640-001 SEVERN SOUND (J Bradley) J Bradley 5-10-6 (6 ex) ... G Davies
19 02200-0 LORD CHARLES (B) (P Williams) Mrs K Coulman 4-10-2 ... DOUBTFUL
21 3f00f-2 THE TOTM (O Donnelly) J Jenkins 6-10-1 ... –
22 002000 GO LISSAVA (C) (F Barton) F Barton 5-10-0 ... T Wall 4

2 Tumble Jim, 100-30 The Totm, 9-2 Probabilist, 7 Lark's Lady, 12 Severn Sound, Russian Salad, 20 others.

2.0 DECEMBER CHASE (handicap: £1,892: 2m 4f) (11)

2 2111-33 SNOWTOWN BOY (D) (Mrs M Kean) J Berry 8-11-13 ... J Francome
3 1-0123p GAMBLING PRINCE (Mrs G Jones) Mrs G Jones 10-11-6 ... H Davies
4 1210-30 JO COLOMBO (D) (B O'Brian) W Jenks 8-11-6 ... –
10 232441- LATE NIGHT EXTRA (D) (Lt-Col E Phillips) K C Bailey 7-10-13 ... M Perrett
12 f1413-2 HOPE OF OAK (D) (J Hope) J Charlton 7-10-11 ... G Bradley
13 3-32412 LODGE'S FORTUNE (C,D) (Mrs G Lodge) Mrs S Davenport 8-10-10 ... Mr A Sharpe 4
14 21ff0-1 CELTIC BREW (Maj F Phillips) Mrs M Rimell 6-10-7 ... S Morshead
15 0-2421f FURY BOY (D) (Capt J Macdonald-Buchanan) D Nicholson 10-10-7 ... P Scudamore
16 f/p-2p2 MR MARLSBRIDGE (J Rose) D Gandolfo 10-10-0 ... P Barton
18 01100-4 CAPTAIN SHADOW (D Ancil) D Ancil 6-10-0 ... Mrs P Nicholls 7
21 4-p2012 GREEN DOLPHIN (Mrs C Black) Mrs C Black 9-10-0 ... A Webber

3 Celtic Brew, 4 Hope Of Oak, 5 Fury Boy, 13-2 Mr Marlsbridge, 8 Lodges Fortune.

2.30 TOTE CHASE (novices: £2,256: 3m 2f) (12)

1 30-2113 HY-KO (Mrs M Brubaker) D Gandolfo 7-11-8 ... P Barton
2 041-121 MASTER TERCEL (C) (T Baines) J Spearing 7-11-8 ... S Morshead
4 848p-13 PEARLYKING (B Jenks) W Jenks 7-11-3 ... Mr A J Wilson
6 232341 KEEP A PROMISE (G A Farndon) Capt J Wilson 5-11-2 ... Mrs G Rees
11 p EASTER TIDE (J Eaton) J Eaton 9-10-12 ...
13 0003p-4 MR LARK (S Drage) Mrs K Coulman 9-10-12 ... DOUBTFUL
15 f0-00 NORTH DOWN (N Morgan) N Morgan 7-10-12 ...
16 022uf2- NORTHERN BAY (Twycross Frozen Food) T Bill 7-10-12 ... P Hobbs
20 0000-40 ENTERPRISE EXPRESS (C Morfitt) P Bevan 5-10-11 ...
24 0324-p0 JUST PEEP (Mrs H Mowlem) J Mowlem 9-10-7 ... D Hyde 4
25 f-p OUR AFFAIR (J Halfhead) A Cawley 10-10-7 ...
27 00-02p0 TARA'S NEWS (R Perkins) R Perkins 5-10-7 ... Mr D Williams

8-11 Hy-Ko, 11-4 Master Tercel, 8 Keep A Promise, 10 Pearlyking, 16 Northern Bay.

3.0 ROCESTER HURDLE (3-y-o novices: £690: 2m 4f) (16)

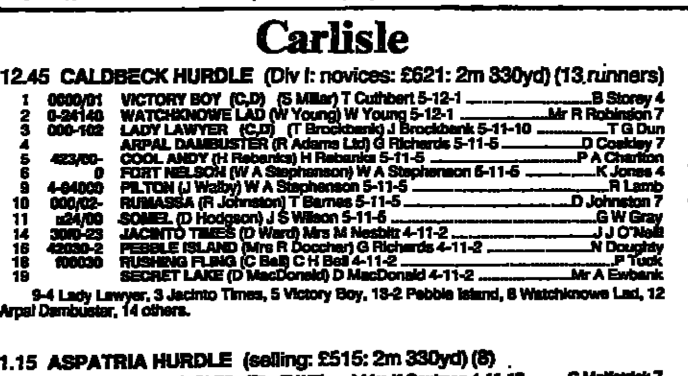
3.30 ASHBOURNE HURDLE (4-y-o handicap: £1,372: 2m 1f) (13)

Uttoxeter selections

By Michael Phillips

1.0 Gamble Hall. 1.30 The Totm. 2.0 Hope of Oak. 2.30 Master Tercel. 3.0 Nialan. 3.30 Morvern.

Carlisle



12.45 CALDBECK HURDLE (Div I: novices: £621: 2m 330yd) (13 runners)

1.15 ASPATRIA HURDLE (selling: £515: 2m 330yd) (8)



1.45 CUMWHINTON CHASE (handicap: £1,360: 3m) (8)

3 131p0-1 FINAL ARGUMENT (C) (G Bartholomew) G Richards 7-11-7 ... J J O'Neill
8 f/p-004 LASOBANY (C,D) (J Cowan) C Bell 10-10-0 ... P Tuck
9 ff-u220 THREE TO ONE (C,D) (D Cavendish-Pell) K Oliver 12-10-0 ... P A Charlton
13 00-4101 MAN ALIVE (C,D) (Mrs R Peacock) R Peacock 12-10-0 ... –
15 af-3a00 UNSCRUPULOUS JUDGE (D) (F Scotto) W A Stephenson 8-10-0 ... K Jones 4
20 21110p- ARCTIC SILVER (C,D) (D Riley) S Wiles 11-10-0 ... C Pimlott
21 1f00- HARDY LAD (D) (Mrs J Milligan) B Wilkinson 8-10-0 ... N Doughty
22 2f1030 ARTSUM (R Jeffrey) R Jeffrey 8-10-0 ... S Charlton

7-4 Final Argument, 100-30 Three To One, 5 Man Alive, 13-2 Lasobany, 10 Arctic Silver, 12 Artsum, 14 Unscrupulous Judge, 20 Hardy Lad.

2.15 HEADS NOOK CHASE (novices: £1,116: 2m 4f) (12)

3 04f048- ALLI-RECO (F Watson) F Watson 5-11-3 ... N Doughty
4 022/20- AMBASSADOR BOY (R Leder) Mrs A Cousins 7-11-3 ... T G Dun
13 30f-0 ITS A CAPPER (J Turner) C Thornton 5-11-3 ... C Hawkins
15 uu4000 MIGHTY RUN (J Walby) W A Stephenson 5-11-3 ... R Lamb
16 0003p-4 MR LARK (S Drage) Mrs K Coulman 9-11-3 ... K Whyte
17 0204-43 OCEAN CRUISE (J Mason) M Mason 8-11-3 ... M Pepper 4
21 0p0-0p2 SAM WREKIN (R Thomson) C H Bell 5-11-3 ... P Tuck
23 233220 SIR MARCUS (Mrs G Reed) W G Reed 7-11-3 ... Mr T Reed 7
26 p4200-0 STRAWHILL (Mrs L Ford) E Alston 8-11-3 ... R Balfour 7
28 2p234-0 THRELKELD HALL (J Pearson) Mrs C Weightman 9-11-3 ... B Storey 4
29 00pu0-f JOYFUL STAR (Exors of the late J Dixon) J E Dixon 6-10-12 ... Mr L Hudson
30 000-000 SOLDIER'S DREAM (J Wilson) W Fairgrieve 5-10-12 ... K Jones 4

5-2 Ocean Cruise, 3 Sir Marcus, 9-2 Sam Wrekin, 6 Ambassador Boy, 8 Threlkeld Hall, 10 Its A Capper, 14 others.

2.45 CALDBECK HURDLE (Div II: novices: £645: 2m 330yd) (16)

3.15 LADBROOKE HURDLE (handicap: £1,421: 2m 4f) (10)

Carlisle selections

By Michael Phillips

12.45 Pebble Island. 1.15 Misty Mirage. 1.45 Final Argument. 2.15 Sam Wrekin. 2.45 Vitriolic. 3.15 On Leave.

Hexham results

Going: good to firm

12.45 PRIESTPOPPLE CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS CHASE (handicap: £1,332: 2m)

SWIFT ALBANY ch g by Count Albany – Swift Imp (R Robinson) 9-11-3 ... Mandy Harrison wo 1

[illegible]

1.45 HENCOTES CHASE (handicap: £1,522: 3m)

JETHARTS HERE b g by Grangerulagh – Jedhart Lass (G Renilson) 9-10-10 ... C Pimlott (4-7 fav) 1

Grangeview Lad ... T G Davies (11-2) 2

The Fencer ... K Jones (25-1) 3

TOTE: Win: £1.20. Places: £1.10, £1.30. DF: £2.90. CSF: £4.43. G Renilson at Jedburgh. 8l, 1l, Roman Con (6-2) 4th. 5 ran.

2.45 EASTGATE HURDLE (Amateurs: novices: £732: 2m 4f)

SLAVE KING, b g, by Kinglet – Slavetown (A Wylie) 4-10-12 ... A Dudgeon (5-2 fav) 1

Mr Dansop ... P J Dun (3-1) 2

Telegraph Bush ... R Shiels (20-1) 3

TOTE: Win: £4.90. Places: £2.20, £1.00, £13.50. DF: £19.00. CSF: £12.48. C H Bell at Hawick. 2½l, 10l. Krypton (20-1) 4th. 14 ran. NR: Woodburgh.

[illegible] Felixstowe Lad (100-30 fav). Faldor (33-1) 4th. 12 ran. NR: Lax Kelly.

PLACEPOT: £1.10.

● Worcester was abandoned due to frost and fog.

KING GEORGE VI CHASE: FIRST ACCEPTORS. Antic Syrs 11st 10lbs, Bayham, Sir Vardon 9-11-10, Bregawn 9-11-10, Brown Chamberlin 8-11-10, Burrough Hill Lad 7-11-10, Captain John 9-11-0, Combs Ditch 7-11-10, [illegible]

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For the attention of Mrs R S White.

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Box 1157L The Times

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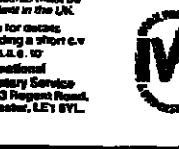
LESOTHO
Water Engineer

SWAZILAND
Carpentry Instructors; Hatchery Manager; Agriculture Teachers & Instructors; Co-ordinator for Agricultural Co-operative; Print Workshop Manager; Co-ordinator for Workcamps Association.

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The postholder will report to the Chief Executive, and be a member of the Society's Management Team. *Responsibilities will include* staff and office management, internal auditing and financial planning, and the duties of a Company Secretary. An attractive salary in the region of £12,500 and excellent Conditions of Service will be offered to the successful candidate. Full details and an application form may be obtained on request.

Closing date Friday 16th December 1983.

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an autonomous registered Charity, invites applications for the post of

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The Council provides a focus for voluntary bodies concerned with community, environmental and welfare matters and candidates should have sound experience of administration, including committee work, preferably in a voluntary organisation, and a knowledge of rural areas and their problems. They should be able to work closely with both voluntary and statutory organisations and be willing to undertake responsibility for a wide range of activities and initiatives, including evening and week-end work.

Salary will be on the scale £8,458 rising to £10,626 per annum, and there is a non-contributory pension scheme.

Further details and application form available from: The Chief Executive, Community Council of Staffordshire, 29 Eastgate Street, Stafford ST16 2LZ. Closing date for applications Friday 13 January 1984. Interviews to be held week commencing 23 January 1984.

The University of Manchester
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Quote Ref: 197/83/T.

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General Appointments

HORIZONS

The Times guide to career development

Museums learn to have a wider reach

As museums try to reach out to a wider audience, the demand grows for teachers to bridge the divide, writes Ann Hills

John Reeve, head of the education department at the British Museum, happened to mention to art teachers working with West Indian girls that hair might make a wonderful project. "They agreed, and within days I had to become an instant expert on the subject, down to finding out that heavily hairy Assyrians were probably wearing wigs, the Ancient Egyptians were certainly bald underneath."

The department, currently with four full-time teaching staff, has a mammoth task in interpreting the museum's international treasures. It is running courses this winter in subjects from women in Greece and Rome to Roman Britain, and, for the first time, Korea. Education has become a key word in the museum sector.

The National Trust has an education department, now examining new areas for interpretation through music, dance, film and literature, as well as drama. The House of Commons has an education officer, as have some 300 national, local and independent museums and galleries.

Ironbridge has set up an Institute of Industrial Archaeology with the University of Birmingham, which also provides external courses. Another recent move was the appointment of a former educational television presenter, Pat Keysell, as a mime artist in residence – possibly the first – at Kendal's Brewery Arts Centre. She is producing seasonal cabarets using young and mature talents gleaned from schools and the wider community.

Although the residency is specialist, it is symptomatic of a trend. Museums are setting aside rooms for education, preparing audio-visual displays, and sending out materials to schools. For this work they need staff with appropriate backgrounds. Museums usually come under administration of "leisure" departments, and their teachers are expected to serve the whole community. Pressure has also come from educational establishments to make collections accessible.

The Horniman Museum education department, run by the chairman of the Group for Education in Museums (GEM), Dr Elizabeth Goodhew, illustrates the problems and possibilities. The three full-time staff are supplemented by adult education tutors and lecturers in special interests – one does a Saturday recorder workshop.

Lack of funding has held back expansion in the museum education field, despite heavy demand, but there have been other outside sources of finance. These include friends of galleries, and sponsorship – BP paid for education materials for the Wellcome collection at the Science Museum. Manpower Services Commission programmes have also helped to create many one and two-year appointments.

John Reeve's career serves as a solid example. From Cambridge, with a history degree, he went to Avon and became a history teacher, eventually developing his own CSE courses based on local historical research. That took him to the Castle Museum in York – "a fascinating collection" – as teacher, finding himself "in remote valleys on the way to schools with a suit of armour or a Victorian dress in the car". Now he's at a peak in career terms and editor of the Journal of Education in Museums (issue five is due in the spring), published by GEM.

His advice on finding a way into education in museums is aimed mainly at teachers, although anyone from a potter to a naturalist may have marketable skills with some teaching experience. Would-be museum educators should freelancing – lecturing or working on holiday projects or evening classes. Offer particular knowledge about part of a collection. Funds may be available from education authorities or under government schemes, as for inner cities, for particular sessions.

Appropriate skills can be gained at university. Manchester has a course in the fine and decorative arts. At Leicester University the Department of Museum Studies has been expanded. The main course is a year long. The Institute of Education at University of London has made a study of museums, galleries and the school part of its postgraduate work. This year there's a new diploma course focusing on three major international museums in London.

You can find out more about the field from the Museums Association, which advertises posts in its monthly bulletin, monitors developments, publishes a factsheet on careers in museums and a datasheet on educational and children's activities in museums.

GEM produces literature, from the quarterly newsletter to a handlist of museum education services in the British Isles and membership is open to anyone interested.

NEWSROUND

Michel Syrett summarizes the latest changes in social security benefits: the unemployment benefit basic weekly rate has gone up from £25 to £27.05. The additional allowance for a spouse of "housekeeper" has risen from £15.45 to £16.70. The supplementary benefit basic weekly allowance for a single person has increased from £25.70 to £26.80. Savings will now only disqualify claimants if they total £3,000 or more. In addition, the surrender value of an existing life assurance policy of up to £1,500 will not be treated as part of this limit. Any amount above that will be counted towards the main £3,000 limit.

The capital limit which applies to single payments is raised from £300 to £500. The new limit will allow claimants to qualify for a single payment without having to use up savings when a special need arises. Child benefit rose from £5.85 to £6.50 a week. This makes claimants 5p ahead of inflation, fulfilling a government promise.

November also saw new rules which go some way towards changing the discrimination facing couples claiming benefits. In some cases either partner can now claim supplementary benefit. A couple can now claim the family income supplement if either partner is in full-time work – previously the man had to be working. In addition, married women will be able to claim some dependants' benefits for their husbands and children, which was not previously possible. Full details are contained in a new DHSS leaflet *New ways of claiming for couples* (NI 248), available from local DHSS offices, unemployment benefit offices, Citizens Advice Bureaux, post offices or public libraries.

Elisabeth Baker writes: New help for small businesses will shortly be coming to Burton-on-Trent. A group of leading companies and banks there have got together with the East Staffordshire District Council and the Burton District Chamber of Commerce. They are sponsoring an enterprise agency, set up in a converted grain warehouse, due to open its doors early next year.

The agency aims to give whatever assistance it can to those in the area who are conidering starting up in business or to existing small businesses wishing to expand. It will also counsel those businesses which are declining or about to cease trading. Commercial advice, including help or information technology, will come from the agency's own staff, but special needs will be dealt with by experts from the sponsoring companies.

The agency chairman is to be John Ireland, formerly managing director of Pirelli Tyres, and the managing director will be Peter St Jay Harris, seconded from the Inn Coop-Burton brewery. For further information, the agency can be contacted at Derby Street, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire.

Dominic Brender writes: People who choose to register for work at a Jobcentre will have their details retained for a maximum period of three months, unless they specifically ask for their registration to be renewed, the Manpower Services Commission announced last month. Certain categories of jobseeker will still be encouraged to register so that their specialist needs can be looked after. They include disabled people (whose details will not be removed without their knowledge), young people under 18, and jobseekers who want to work in occupations for which the Jobcentres do not currently have a suitable vacancy, but expect to have one in the near future.





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NOW WE BESEECH YOU, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ ... that ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled. 2 Thessalonians 2: 1,2

BIRTHS

BRADER. - On December 6th in Lincoln, to Victoria (nee Chambers) and Christopher - a son (Lawrence Henry Burnell)

BROOKE. - On 5th December, to Alix and Robin - a son

BUCHANAN - on December 1st to Christiana (nee Blackshaw) and Andrew a Son Robert Alexander Macpherson

DAYNE - DITMAS. - On December 1st, to Julia (nee Edgeworth) and Hal - a son (William Andrew Edgeworth).

DEAR. - On Dec 6th, at Farnborough Hospital, to Tessa (nee Kidd) and Nick - a son, a brother for Jolyon

EVANS. - On December 3rd at The Royal Shrewsbury Hospital, to Belinda (Min) (nee Howard) and Michael, a daughter Alice Valerie Katherine

GIBBONS. - On December 5 in Seattle to Julie and Anthony a son.

GUINNESS - on 29th November, 1983, to Maureen (nee Haley) and Kevin, a son (Michael John), a brother for Elizabeth

HOOKHAM - on November 23rd to Jennifer (nee Hewish) and Richard, a daughter - Rebecca Jane

JAMES. - on 3rd December at St Teresa's Hospital, Wimbledon to Deborah and John, a daughter, Jenny

LOWE. - On November 29 to Felicity and Mark at Colchester - a boy, a brother for Kate and William

MACLEOD-SMITH. - On December 5 in Denver USA to Sandie and Geoff, a daughter

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

PORGES. - Elizabeth Macpherson, daughter of the late Ann Porges of The Old Parsonage, Munslow, Shropshire, wishes to thank all her mother's friends for their cards and Christmas greetings and hopes they will forgive any delay in replying to each individually

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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SESSION 1983-84
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1. Construction of the following works:
In the county of Devon in the city of Plymouth:
Work No. 1. A reclamation and filling in of the north-eastern corner of the Outer Basin at Plymouth (Millbay) Docks, together with a wall.

2. Acquisition of lands and easements or rights over lands in the area aforesaid of the proposed works. Extinction of private rights of way over the lands to be acquired and special provisions as to compensation.

3. Special provisions in connection with the construction of the proposed works and provision for the extension, enlargement, alteration, replacement or relaying thereof. Provision for subsidiary works in connection with the proposed works. Application of existing byelaws, rules and regulations at Plymouth (Millbay) Docks to Work No. 1

4. Incorporation and application, with or without amendment, of certain provisions of the Railways Clauses Consolidation Act 1845, the Harbours, Docks and Piers Clauses Act 1847, the Compulsory Purchase Act 1965 and the British Transport Docks Acts of ...

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Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Lee

BBC 1

6.00 Ceefax AM. News, sport, weather and travel information in a taste of teletex.

6.30 Breakfast Time. Frank Bough and Selina Scott up with the lark for news at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30; Regional News at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45, 8.15; Weather at 6.31, 6.57, 7.27, 7.57, 8.27; Morning papers at 7.18 and 8.18.

9.00 Mastermind. Repeated semi-finals of the brain-box challenge. 9.30 Closedown. 10.30 Play School. 10.55 Closedown.

12.30 News, Weather. 12.57 Financial Report and news.

1.00 Pebble Mill at One. Celebrity guests and flower arranging 1.45 Postman Pat.

2.00 Take Another Look: It's a Crystal, Crystal World. An aesthetic appreciation of nature, as viewed through crystals (r).

2.20 Film: Born to Be Bad (1950) What a wicked women is Joan Fontaine. She gets her claws into millionaire Zachary Scott, artist Mel Ferrar and writer Robert Ryan, the rising star of her uncle's publishing house in San Francisco. Nicholas Ray knew it was all bad fun and directed accordingly.

3.55 Play School: It's Thursday. 4.20 The Adventures of Bullwinkle and Rocky: Cartoon saga. 4.25 Jackanory. Read by John Grant. 4.35 Spider-Man and His Amazing Friends.

5.00 John Craven's Newsround. 5.10 Blue Peter.

5.40 Sixty Minutes. Nationwide lives on to incorporate the news at 5.40; South East at Six at 5.53; Weather at 6.15; Closing Headlines at 6.38.

6.40 Angels. The week's second dose of the hospital soap opera. Chris and Tracey move into their new flat.

7.05 Tomorrow's World. For cable companies, a street cutter that can lay a mile of cable a day. And a resus citator that respirates if the patient fails to.

7.30 Top of the Pops. Mike Read and Tommy Vance are the DJ duo linking perpetrators of pop hits.

8.05 Wildlife on One: Sparrows of St James's. Fame at last for the little brown birds we so often take for granted, unless we're washing the car or hanging out the washing.

8.30 Only Fools and Horses. Another episode in which writer John Sullivan's inept impres arios Rodney and Del are armed with a paint brush, this time on an ill-fated commission to redecorate a friend's flat.

9.00 News and weather.

9.25 Johnny Jarvis. Having begun as a sort of serial for Grange Hill graduates, this tale of two lads from London's East End has taken off on an almost surreal tangent, with a shadowy drug dealer called The Colonel holding the rock writer Lipton a prisoner in his mother's council flat. Jarvis is also flat-bound, and flat broke, compelled to baby-sit while Stella goes out to work.

10.25 Question Time. Sir Robin Day erects his political platform in Edinburgh, for computer king Sir Clive Sinclair, Gavin Laird, general secretary of the AUEW, Charles Kennedy, the SDP MP for Ross and Cromarty and George Younger, MP, Secretary of State for Scotland.

11.18 News headlines.

11.20 George Burns's Early Early Early Christmas Show. With Bob Hope, Ann-Margret, the Hawkins Family (Oh, Happy Days) and Playboy Playmates, the ultimate in stocking fillers. It's a repeat, repeat, repeat.

12.10 Weather and Closedown.

TV-am

6.25 Good Morning Britain. Anne Diamond and Nick Owen start the day with the morning papers, then news at 6.30 and half-hourly until 9.00; sport at 6.35, 7.40; pop video at 7.55; farming at 6.50: Money Talks, 7.45; film review, 8.35; cookery with Michael Barry at 9.02. Peter Adamson is at 7.35.

ITV/LONDON

9.25 Thames News Headlines.

9.30 Sesame Street. Puppet pedagogy. 10.25 Early Civilisations. Mesopotamia, Egypt, India, China, Greece. 10.45 Little House on the Prairie. Charles and Jonathan meet their rivals in a hauling contest (r). 11.35 Film Fun – The Movie. Classic cartoon clips (r).

12.00 Teetime and Claudia. 12.10 Get Up and Go! Beryl Reid chooses new cushions. 12.30 The Sullivans. Australian.

1.00 News. 1.20 Thames News. 1.30 A Plus. Mid-week magazine. 2.00 Take the High Road. More high life in the Highlands.

2.30 Brother to the Ox. John Willis *(Rampton, Alice – A Fight for Life)* turned to rather more rural pursuits to produce this evocative life and times of farm boy Fred Kitchen, "sold" at a hiring fair in 1904 (r).

3.30 Sons and Daughters. Endless serial.

4.00 Teetime and Claudia (r). 4.20 First Post. Junior TV critics. 4.35 Porky Pig. With Daffy Duck. 4.45 Here Comes Garfield.

5.15 The Young Doctors. Brian asks out his wife.

5.45 News. 6.00 Thames News.

6.30 Thames Sport. Steve Cram discusses his 1500 metre prospects.

7.00 Knight Rider. Three assassins terrorise a blind woman they think was an eye-witness to attempted murder.

8.00 Shelley. It's not so much hard cheese as burnt bread, as far as the police are concerned, when a burglar makes off with Shelley's cherished toaster. Hywel Bennett makes a fuss.

8.30 Hotel. Back to the Californian *Crossroads*, where the favourite in a beauty contest must decide whether the winning sash is worth favouring one of the judges, and an ex-convict calls on Billy to collect a debt. Anne Baxter plays the Meg Mortimer character (Mrs Cabot) while James Brolin is Hollywood's answer to Mr Hunter.

9.30 TV Eye. Sugar, salt and water are the ingredients of an astonishingly simple medical breakthrough that could save five million children every year, as a result of severe diarrheoa. The condition is one of the biggest killers of children in the Third World.

10.00 News at Ten, followed by Thames News Headlines.

10.30 The Sweeney. Regan's daughter is abducted by a gang who want the detective inspector to ease off his inquiries as they plan their next heist. John Thaw plays Regan, Janet Key plays his estranged wife, Kate, and Garfield Morgan (his superior) was seen in *Shelley* earlier tonight. This episode was scripted by Trevor Preston (r).

11.30 Citizen 2000. The far-sighted Thames project to follow the fortunes of 15 children born in 1982, picks up again with the first of four further reports this Saturday on Channel 4. But this recaps the aims of the series scheduled to proceed until the year 2000 (r).

12.30 Night Thoughts. Rabbi Eliezer Weisz on Chanukah, the Jewish festival of lights, followed by Closedown.

Anton Lesser: Film on Four (Channel 4, 9.30pm)

● William Boyd bowls a bouncer at three rotten stumps of the English public school system in GOOD AND BAD AT GAMES (Channel 4, 9.30pm). The novelist's maiden film script provides director Jack Gold with his hat trick for Film on Four. But the way in which three schoolboys humiliate an insecure, younger boarder, is, to borrow Boyd's central metaphor, certainly not cricket. Leaping nimbly between then (1973) and now, Gold gradually reveals why, 10 years after leaving school a gibbering wreck, the persecuted Cox (Anton Lesser in splendidly snivelling form) still reviles his aggressors enough to pursue a violent vendetta against their leader. Boyd's dialogue is at times strong, though reasonable, and the sadism of the traumatic boot-room bullying scene in the tradition of Tom Brown's Schooldays and Lord of the Flies.

CHOICE

The climax is knowingly set on a playing field of England.

● Channel 4 is intent on keeping viewers out of the kitchen tonight. At the other end of the social scale from William Boyd's boarding school bullies, comes THE SNIFFER'S TALE (Channel 4, 11.20pm). This unsettling instalment in the outspoken series, Our Lives, is worth watching not because it is particularly good, but particularly because it is, I think, morally misguided. It is also a rare insight into glue-sniffing, an insidious sub-culture that I hope few of us are ever otherwise likely to encounter. "You just end up on the slab" says Pat, our glue guide, who thus becomes the exception to the rule: He ends up on television. Having told us how he finally kicked his addiction to adhesive, Pat and four mates then illustrate the effects of inhaling a tin of Evo-Stik. Back in their old sniffing haunts, they pump fume-filled plastic bags into their faces while the cameras look eagerly on. Socially concerned viewers may be shocked at the sight and disturbed by the implications. If a would-be suicide is determined to jump, should the director strap a camera on his back, for the sake of "good TV"?

● There is a cavernous quality about THE PUTNEY DEBATES (Radio 3, 7.30pm) that it shares with Today in Parliament (Radio 4, 11.30pm), which, I imagine, will cheer Piers Plowright, who produced this fascinating reconstruction of the historic row between Cromwell and the leaders of his New Model Army during a lull in the English Civil War.

BBC 2

5.35 News summary and weather.

5.40 Film: Tarzan and the Trappers (1958) *Gordon Scott took over the loincloth to stride through at least six adventures in the 1950s, as the Edgar Rice Burroughs jungle hero. Here he tracks down hunters who deal in animal skins. Eve Brent is Jane.

6.50 Open Space. New technology must be used to the benefit of all, and not some, argue miners at the high-tech Selby colliery.

7.30 100 Great Sporting Moments. Rugby union highlights from the Sam Doble Memorial Match, between Moseley and an Invitation XV in 1977.

7.45 Spike Milligan: In the Spotlight. Goon but not forgotten, the early showbiz escapades of Spike Milligna, the famous typing error (r)

8.30 Global Report: The Kerala Solution. Given that the actual economic equation is fairly straightforward – in the fields, children can earn money, in the classroom, they cost – the solution for impoverished parents in rural communities is to multiply while they are young, so that they may have someone to fall back on when they are old. But in India's most crowded state, Kerala, where they are an unusually educated lot, the answer over the past decade has been to have less children. As a result, the birth rate has halved and, with fewer to clothe and feed, parents can spend more on sending their children to school. Education is also giving villagers the confidence to improve their living and working conditons.

9.00 Dear Ladies. Hinge and Bracket, in another glimpse into the realms of transvestitism in leafy Stackton Tressel (r)

9.30 The Great Palace: The Story of Parliament. Lord Hailsham may well be Lord Chancellor, Keeper of the Great Seal, Keeper of the Queen's Conscience and Speaker of the House of Lords, but to Winnie, lady char, keeper of the mop and guardian of the bucket, he and his peers are just "a lovely clean bunch". Having tunnelled its way respectfully through the halls and House of Commons, this guided tour of the Palace of Westminster now reaches the Upper House where it is sensitive enough to detect "a gentle miasma of mothballs", yet remains largely content to enumerate the number of books in the Lords library and worry that there is "a mile of red-carpeted corridor to be hoovered." Of the 1200 peers entitled to sit in the Lords, two-thirds are hereditary, and there is an in-built preponderance of Conservatives.

10.20 Ebony. Magazine for black Britons.

10.50 Newsnight.

11.40 Closedown.

CHANNEL 4

5.00 Countdown. Another quarter-final in the words and numbers game, with Ned Sherrin thumbing through the dictionary. The contestants are from London and Leeds.

5.30 Everybody Here. Melting pot magazine for children mixes a young origami expert from Newcastle and an Asian steel band with a rapper's tale of how the steel pan was invented (r).

6.00 The Addams Family* Better the wierdo you know. Morticia persuades her playboy cousin Itt to renew his courtship of her sister Ophelia. Carolyn Jones (Morticia), Ted Cassidy (Lurch) and Jackie Coogan (Uncle Fester) play the lovably loony characters created in the New Yorker magazine by cartoonist Charles Addams (r).

6.30 The Good Food Show. Last course of the monthly wine and dine series has a strongly festive flavour, with Prue Leith's "instant" Christmas cake and welcome tips on stanching the drinks bill without spoiling the fun.

7.00 Channel 4 News. Read by Peter Sissons, with headlines at 7.30, followed by business news.

7.50 Comment. By Dr Peter Draper, Director of the Unit for the Study of Health Policy at Guy's Hospital; followed by weather.

8.00 Band of Gold. Beating the drum for Britain's drum corps movement, the Dagenham Crusaders marched into the World Open Championships in the United States, and managed to make the quarter-finals. They were also the first British drum and bugle corps to cross the Atlantic, and this report on their tour watches as the youngsters, who had saved for three years to make the trip, gladly slept in coaches, endured cockroaches, clammy heat, school house floors and a series of minor injuries so they could prove themselves among the best.

9.00 Soap. Another round of unhappy families, with the Campbells and the Tates delving ever deeper into life's most improbable misfortunes. Chester loses his memory, Jodie loses his love for Dennis, and Dutch thinks it best to lose Eunice. Corinne, meanwhile, tells Jessica she is expecting (r).

9.30 Film: Good and Bad at Games (1983) Novelist William Boyd's first film. Anton Lesser seethes as a put-upon schoolboy who tracks down his chief persecutor ten years later. Jack Gold directs (*see Choice*).

11.05 What the Papers Say. Press pundit Charles Wintour tastes the fruits of Fleet Street.

11.20 Our Lives: The Sniffer's Tale. Confessions of a Cockney glue sniffer and his pals, as filmed by Jeff Perks (*see Choice*).

12.00 Closedown.

Radio 4

6.00 News briefing.
6.10 Farming today featuring The Royal Smithfield Show, London. 6.25 Shipping forecast.
6.30 Today, including 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 News Summary. 6.45 Prayer for the Day. 6.55, 7.55 Weather. 7.00, 8.00 Today's Sport. 7.25, 8.25 Sport. 7.45 Thought for the Day. 8.35 Yesterday in Parliament. 8.57 Weather; Travel.
9.00 News.
9.05 Checkpoint. A weekly investigation into listeners' problems.
9.30 The Living World.
10.00 News; Conversation Piece. Sue MacGregor talks to the conductor, Dr Jeffery Tate, about his life and work.
10.30 Morning Story: 'Kindred Spirits' by Madeline Blackmore.
10.45 Daily Service.
11.00 News, Travel; Analysis. Mary Goldring looks behind the scenes of the National Health Service and talks to Secretary of State, Norman Fowler.
11.48 Enquire Within.
12.00 News. You and Yours. Consumer Affairs.
12.27 Yes Minister. A radio version of the popular series which retains the original cast. 12.55 Weather; Programme news.
1.00 The World at One: News.
1.40 The Archers. 1.55 Shipping forecast.
2.00 News; Woman's Hour.
3.00 News; Afternoon Theatre. 'Play it Straight' by Melville Jones. A key figure in a dispute between Britain and other members of the EEC suddenly disappears and espionage is suspected. An old friend of the missing man embarks on a frantic search, at the end of which he learns that his own life has been profoundly changed. The author is now an hotelier, living in Cornwall. He has taught at several public schools. The cast includes Peter Wickham, Madi Hedd, and Judith Arthy.
4.00 News; Just after Four.
4.10 Bookshelf. Radio 4's Book Programme.
4.40 Story Time: 'A Kind of Treason' by George Macbeth (6).
5.00 PM: News magazine. 5.50 Shipping forecast. 5.55 Weather; Programme news.
6.00 The Six O'clock News.
6.30 My Word.†
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 The Fourth Man by Michael Edwardes. The story of Mohammed Ali Jinnah, the fourth man in the great drama of the decline and fall of the British Empire in India.
7.50 Concert prelude.†
8.00 Berganza and the Scottish Chamber Orchestra directed from the Queen's Hall, Edinburgh. Part 1: Handel, Albinoni, Falla.
9.40 Kaleidoscope. Arts magazine. Tonight's topics include Dennis Potter's play Sufficient Carbohydrate (at the Hampstead Theatre. Includes an interview with the playwright), and the Central TV comedy series Auf Wiedersehen, Pet. There is also an interview with Gene Allen, president of the Academy of Motion Pictures, Arts and Sciences; 9.58 Weather.
11.00 The World Tonight: News.
11.00 A Book at Bedtime: 'Ask Mamma' by R. S. Surtees (4).
11.15 The Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News.
12.10 Weather.
12.15 Shipping forecast.

ENGLAND VHF as above except: 6.25-6.30am Weather; Travel. 10.45-12.00 For Schools: 10.45 Salut les Jeunes! (7&8) 11.15 Theatre Workshop 11.55 Information on Night-time broadcasts; 1.55pm Listening Corner; 2.00-3.00 For Schools: 2.00 (Advanced Studies: English; 2.30 Functional Reading (7&8). 5.50-5.55 PM (continued). 11.00-11.30 Study on 4: Allez France! 12.30-1.00am Schools night-time broadcasting: Programmes affected by earlier transmitter breakdowns may be rebroadcast here

Radio 3

6.55 Weather. 7.00 News.
7.05 Morning Concert. On records. Part one. Music by Fauré, Haydn, Glazunov.†
8.00 News.
8.05 Morning Concert: part two. Music by David Diamond, Gershwin, Milhaud. On records.†
9.00 News.
9.05 This Week's Composers: Franz Krommer and Jan Vorisek. On records.†
10.00 Socrate: A symphonic poem by Erik Satie. With Jane Manning (soprano) and the BBC Welsh Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Bryden Thomson.†
10.30 Music for Harpsichord: A recital by Malcolm Proud. He plays Bach's Partita No 2 in C minor, MWV 826; Armand-Louis Couperin's Allemande and Courante (La de Croissy).†
11.10 Mahler: The IBA Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Gary Bertini, play Mahler's Third Symphony. With Susan Kessler (mezzo), Rinat National Choir, Choir of the Rubin Academy of Music and Dance, and Neve Shir Municipal Children's Choir. An Israel Radio recording.†
1.00 News.
1.05 Manchester Midday Concert: direct from the Royal Exchange Theatre. The Parikian/Fleming/Roberts Trio play Mozart's Trio in E, K 542; and Brahms's Trio in C minor, Op 101.†
2.00 Ciboulette. The three-act opera by Reynaldo Hahn. Sung in French. There is an interval reading at 3.00.†
4.10 Copland and Debussy: A piano recital.†
4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure: Another of John Holmstrom's selections of music.†
6.30 Bandstand: A concert by the National Youth Symphonic Band of Norway.†
7.00 The Gentlemen of Chapel Royal: The fifth programme in the series, presented by Gordon Reynolds Tonight: Tomkins and the New Liturgy†
7.30 The Putney Debates: A second chance to hear Jack Emery's feature, which was recorded in All Saints Church, Fulham, in 1979 Mr Emery has adapted the debates of the General Council of the New Model Army which were held in the church between October 28 and November 1, 1647 Timothy West plays Cromwell, with T P McKenna (Ireton), Brian Glover (Reignborough), Michael McStay (Sexby), John Bardon (Everard), Gordon Reid (Wildman), Martin Matthews (Audley and White) and Jack Emery himself as Nathaniel Rich. Narrator Philip Sully (r).†
8.35 Sir Adrian Boult: Performances, on record, of his conducting of Franck's Symphony in D minor †
9.20 Edith Vogel A Beethoven recital by the acclaimed pianist We hear the Sonata in F major Op 54 and the Sonata in F minor, Op 57 (the Apassionata) †
10.00 Music in Our Time: The Suoraan Ensemble play works of Michael Finnissy. Includes the first United Kingdom performance of Whitman. Also Mr Punch and Suoraan. Conducted by the composer and Oliver Knussen, who also introduces.†
11.00 The Complete Webern: Songs and chamber music. Tonight: Three Songs, Op 25; and the String Quartet, 1907 With Phyllis Bryn-Julson (Soprano), Nona Liddell, Joan Atherton, Donald McVay, Christopher van Kampen, and John Constable.†
11.15 News. Until 11.18.

Radio 2

5.00am Ray Moore.† 7.30 Terry Wogan.† 10.00 Jimmy Young.† 12.00pm Music While You Work.† 12.30 Gloria Hunniford.† 2.02 Sports Desk 2.30 Ed Stewart.† 3.02 Sports Desk 4.00 David Hamilton.† 4.02, 5.30 Sports Desk 6.00 John Dunn.†incl 6.45 Sport and Classified Results (mf only) 7.30 Marching and Waltzing.† 8.30 Country Club with Wally Whyton † 9.30 Star Sound Extra with Nick Jackson 9.57 Sports Desk 10.00 The Grumbleweeds 10.30 Brian Matthew presents Round Midnight (stereo from midnight) 1.00am Grand Hotel † 2.00-5.00 Peter Dickson presents You and the Night and the Music.

Radio 1

6.00am Adrian John 7.00 Mike Read 9.00 Simon Bates 11.30 Mike Smith, incl 12.30 Newsbeat 2.00 Steve Wright 4.30 Peter Powell incl 5.30 Newsbeat 7.00 David Jensen 10 00-12.00 John Peel † VHF RADIOS 1 AND 2: 5.00am With Radio 2 10.00pm With Radio 1 12.00-5.00am With Radio 2

WORLD SERVICE

6.00 Newsdesk 7 00 World News 7 09 Twenty-Four Hours 7.30 Country Style 7 45 Network UK 8.00 World News 8.09 Reflections 8.15 Clinging to the Wreckage 8.30 John Peel 9.00 World News 9.09 Review of the British Press 9 15 The World Today 9.30 Financial News 9.40 Look Ahead 9 45 Two Hundred Years of Piano Playing 10 15 Monitor 10.30 Kenneth Williams Cabaret 11.00 World News 11.09 News About Britain 11.15 New Ideas 12.00 Radio Newsreel 12 15 Top Twenty 12.45 Sports Roundup 1 00 World News 1.09 Twenty-Four Hours 1 30 Network UK 1.45 The Pleasure's Yours 2.30 Discovery 3.00 Radio Newsreel 3 15 Outlook 4.00 World News 4.09 Commentary 4 15 Assignment 4 45 The World Today 5 00 World News 5.09 Meridian 8.00 World News 8 09 Twenty-Four Hours 8.15 Ulster Newsletter 9.20 In the Meantime 9.30 Business Matters 10.00 World News 10.09 The World Today 10.25 The Week in Wales 10.30 Financial News 10.40 Reflections 10 45 Sports Roundup 11.00 World News 11 09 Commentary 11 15 Merchant Navy Programme 11 30 Meridian 12 00 World News 12 09 News About Britain 12 15 Radio Newsreel 12.30 Radio Theatre 1 15 Outlook 1 45 Ulster Newsletter 1 50 In the Meantime 2.00 World News 2 09 Review of the British Press 2 15 At Home With 2.30 Sir Adrian Boult A Life of Music 3.00 World News 3 09 News about Britain 3 15 The World Today 3.30 Business Matters 4 00 Newsdesk 4.30 Country Style 5 45 The World Today

(All times in GMT)

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN
† Stereo ★Black and white (r) Repeat

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m; 1089kHz/275m; Radio 2: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m; Radio 3: 1215kHz/247m: VHF -90-92.5; Radio 4: 200kHz 1500m: VHF -92-95; LBC 1152kHz/261m; VHF 97.3; Capital: 1548kHz/194m: VHF 95.8; BBC Radio London 1458kHz/206m: VHF 94.9; World Service MF 648kHz/463m.

BBC 1 WALES: 12.57-1.0pm News of Wales Headlines 3.53-3.55 News of Wales Headlines 5.53 WALES Today 12.10am News of Wales Headlines, Weather, Close SCOTLAND: 12.55-1.0pm Scottish News 5.53 Scotland: Sixty minutes 6.35-6.40 Party Political Broadcast by the Scottish National Party 12.10am Scottish News Summary, Weather, Close NORTHERN IRELAND: 12.57-1.0pm Northern Ireland News 3.53-3.55 Northern Ireland News 5.53 Scene Around Six 12.10am Northern Ireland News Headlines, Weather, Close ENGLAND: 5.53 Regional News Magazines 12.15am Close

S4C starts 2.20 pm Pfalabalam. 2.35 Interval. 3.10 Be Your Own Boss. 3.35 Flashback. 4.00 Body Show. 4.30 Countdown. 4.55 Guto Goch a Melwen. 5.05 Anturiaethau Syr Wynff a Plwmsan. 5.30 Abbott and Costello Show. 6.00 Brookside. 6.25 Here's Lucy. 6.55 Gair Yn El Bryd. 7.00 Newyddion Saith. 7.30 Cefn Gwlad. 8.00 Coleg. 8.30 Tell The Truth. 9.00 Struggle. 9.30 Drama Diflau. 1035 Film: Un Si Joli Village. 12.35 am Gair Yn El Bryd, Closedown.

CHANNEL As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News 3.30-400 University Challenge 5.15-5.45 Beverley Hillbillies 6.00 Channel Report 6.30 Crossroads 6.55 Casper Caper 7.00 Judi 7.30-8.00 Carry On Laughing 10.35 Hill Street Blues 11.30 Arms and Armour 11.40 Superstar Profile 12.05am Closedown

ANGLIA As London except: 10.25am Cartoon. 10.45-11.35 Tarzan. 1.20pm-1.30 News. 7.00 Benson. 7.30-8.00 Carry on Laughing. 10.30 Folio. 11.00 Newhart. 11.30 Mannix. 12.30am Big Question, Closedown.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

TVS As London except: 10.25 am Vicky the Viking. 10.45 Struggle Beneath the Sea. 11.10-11.35 Laurel and Hardy.* 1.20 pm News. 1.30 Afternoon Club. 1.35 Farmhouse Kitchen. 2.05 Gossip. 2.10 ITV Playhouse. 3.10 Newsbreak. 3.20 Sons and Daughters. 3.50-4.00 Stars on Thursday. 5.15-5.45 Terrahawks. 6.00 Coast to Coast. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Emmerdale Farm. 7.30-8.00 Carry On Laughing. 11.30 Newhart. 12.00 Portrait of a Legend. 12.30 am Company, Closedown.

SCOTTISH As London except: 10.25am Film; Four Against The Desert (Jon Pertwee). 11.50-12.00 Wattoo Wattoo. 1.20pm-1.30 News. 2.00-2.30 Newhart. 3.30-4.00 Making A Living. 5.10 Bodyline. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.25 Party Political Broadcast. 6.30 Give Us A Clue. 7.00 Take the High Road. 7.30-8.00 Carry on Laughing. 10.35 The Real World. 11.05 Studio. 11.35 Late Call. 11.40 Mysteries of Edgar Wallace.* 12.35am Closedown.

HTV As London except: 10.25am Russia. 11.10-12.00 Beyond Westworld. 1.20pm-1.30 News. 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors. 5.15-5.45 Three Little Words. 6.00 News. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Emmerdale Farm. 7.30-8.00 Carry on Laughing. 10.30 Clive's Coast. 11.00 Film: Hurried Man (Alain Delon). 12.40am Closedown.

HTV WALES As HTV West except: 6.00pm-6.35 Wales at Six. 10.30-11.00 Wales This Week

ULSTER As London except: 9.25 am-9.30 Day Ahead 10.30 Professor Kitzel 10.40 Untamed World 11.05-11.35 Spellbinders 1.20 pm-1.30 Lunchtime 3.30-4.00 Laurel and Hardy*. 5.15-5.45 Whose Baby? 6.00 Good Evening, Ulster 6.25 Police Six 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Emmerdale Farm. 7.30-8.00 Carry on Laughing. 10.30 Counterpoint. 11.00 Music of Man. 12.00 News, closedown.

CENTRAL As London except: 10.25 am European Folk Tales. 10.35-12.00 Film: Turnabout* (Adolphe Menjou). 12.30 pm-1.00 About Britain. 1.20 News 1.30-3.30 Film Scared Stiff (Dean Martin). 5.15-5.45 Whose Baby? 6.00 Crossroads 6.25 News. 7.00 Emmerdale Farm 7.30-8.00 Carry On Laughing 10.30 The Common Cause 12.00 Closedown.

TYNE TEES As London except: 10.25am-11.35 Film: Grasshopper Island (Frank Muir) 1.20pm-1.30 News and Lookaround 5.15-5.45 Terrahawks 6.00 News 6.02 Crossroads 6.25 Northern Life 7.00 Emmerdale Farm 7.30-8.00 Carry On Laughing 10.32 Come up 11.05 Hallelujah Hollywood 12.10am Festive Flowers closedown

BORDER As London except: 10.25am-11.35 Film Two Mugs From Brooklyn 1.20pm-1.30 News 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors 5.15-5.45 University Challenge. 6.00 Lookaround 6.30 Party Political Broadcast 6.35 Crossroads 7.00 Emmerdale Farm. 7.30-8.00 Carry On Laughing 11.30 Two of Us 12.00 News. Closedown

TSW As London except 10.25am-11.35 Grasshopper Island 1.20pm-1.30 News 3.30-4.00 University Challenge 5.15-5 45 Gus Honeybun 5.20-5.45 Crossroads 6.00 Today South West 6.25 Televiews 6.30 Gardens for all 7 00 Judi 7.30-8 00 Carry on laughing 10 35 Hill Street Blues 11.30 Fisheries News 11 40 Superstar Profile 12.15am Postscript Closedown.

GRANADA As London except: 10.25 am Return Journey 11.05 Laurel and Hardy* 11.25 11.35 Professor Kitzel 12.30 pm-1.00 Farmhouse Kitchen 1.20 Granada Reports 1.30-2.00 Exchange Flags 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors 5.15-5.45 Survival of the Fittest 6.00 Crossroads 6.30 Granada Reports 7.00 Emmerdale Farm 7.30-8.00 Carry on Laughing 10.30 Film National Health 12.25 am Closedown.

GRAMPIAN As London except 9.25am-9 30 First Thing 10.25 Tarzan 11.20-11 35 Educational Short 1 20pm-1.30 News 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors 5 15-5 45 Survival 6.00 North Tonight 6 25 Party Political Broadcast 6.35 Crossroads 7.00 Electric Theatre Show 7 30-8 00 Carry on Laughing 10.30 Cover to Cover 11 00 Nine to Five 11 30 Sounds Gaelic 12.00 News Closedown

YORKSHIRE As London except 10.25 am Fire of Harmony 1050 Matt and Jenny on the Wilderness Trail 11.15-11.35 That Girl 12.30 pm-1.00 That's Hollywood 1 20 News 1.30-2.00 Calendar 5 15-5 45 Shine on Harvey Moon 6.00 Calendar 6.35 Crossroads 7.00 Emmerdale Farm 7.30-8.00 Carry on Laughing 11.30 Jerry Lee Lewis 12.30 am Closedown

ENTERTAINMENTS

IRA kills leading Ulster politician

Continued from page 1

suspected that someone within the law faculty is "fingering" people, particularly following the attempted killings of Lord Gardiner, former Lord Chancellor, and the Lord Chief Justice of Northern Ireland, Lord Lowry.

The Rev Ian Paisley, leader of the Democratic Unionist Party, said: "There is a Republican cell working in the university that has got to be rid of". A student alleged not there were a number of Provisional IRA sympathizers within the students' union.

In a statement admitting responsibility for the shooting the Provisional IRA said that it should be a salutory lesson to "loyalists" who supported the forces of law and order and the legal system.

It alleged that Mr Graham "rejoiced" in the killing of Republicans and said that "loyalist" politicans should be warned that those who "made ammunition" for the Army and the police should not escape repercussions.

Mr James Molyneaux, Official Unionist MP for Antrim South and leader of the party, alleged that there was a determined campaign to eliminate key leading figures in the "loyalist" community. His party remained determined to "bludgeon the Government and the authorities into providing safe conditions for all the people of the province."

He flew from London to Belfast last night for talks with Mr Prior at Stromont where, he said, he would be emphasizing the need to make sure there was an adequate mechamism for dealing with intelligence reports.

Mr Seamus Mallon, deputy leader of the Social Democratic and Labour Party, said that the attack was "naked sectarianism" against the entire community. "The Provisional IRA and Provisional Sinn Fein have shown themselves to be sectarian murder gangs. Nothing more and nothing less."

The dead man was a rising star within the Official Unionist Party who had had a glittering academic career and was widely tipped as a future Westminster MP and potential party leader.

But he had made enemies in both Republican and "loyalist" circles by his strong support for the use of "super grasses" and his opposition to the segregation of prisoners.



The scene in the fog as firemen and rescuers search for survivors of the double crash at Madrid's Barajas airport.

90 die in second crash at Madrid airport

Continued from page 1

scene after hearing the explosion were unable to see where the wrecked aircraft were.

The crash occurred ten days after a Boeing 747 of the Colombian airline Avianca crashed on its approach to Barajas, killing 181 passengers and crew. It also bore a striking similarity to the world's worst ever airline disaster which occurred in 1977 on the Spanish island of Tenerife when a US jumbo jet collided head-on with a Dutch jumbo, killing 585 people.

Señor Enrique Barón, the Spanish Transport Minister, and Señor Alfonso Guerra, the Deputy Prime Minister, went immediately to Barajas to investigate the crash. Señor Guerra told a press conference that the Government will "study" equipping Barajas with more security devices.

Señor Barón, asked whether Spain's crash record could lead to an international boycott of Spanish airfields, replied that no Spanish airports were on the blacklist of the International Airline Pilot's Association.

"Inquiries must show how the Aviaco plane came to find itself on the take off runway," he said.

Severiano Ballesteros, the US Masters Golf champion, had been booked on the Aviaca flight.

But he took the late flight on Tuesday night



A stunned survivor at Madrid Airport.

Scoon 'Grenada's Caesar'

Continued from page 1

said: "The hungry sheep look up, and are not fed."

Mr Rushford said: "Sir Paul Scoon remained in office throughout the period of Maurice Bishop's Government when human rights were suspended, when there were no elections. When that Government was overthrown, the Governor-General saw fit to call in foreign armies into this independent country. It is inconceivable that they would have come in without prior preparation. There must have been a line-up between the United States, Sir Paul and the Caribbean countries. It was a set-up.

The legality of the presence of those forces depends on whether they came at the invitation of a lawful Government. If no invitation was issued their presence would be illegal. I have never been able to discover from the Governor-General what happened or how he gave his invitation. He has remained silent and the circumstances are highly suspect.

"As a parallel matter, President Reagan was on television in America and next to him, like a puppet, was Mrs Eugenia Charles (Prime Minister of Dominica) who took some responsibility for the invitation."

Mr Rushford went to Grenada six days after the invasion at the request of the Commonwealth Secretariat. He was to advise Sir Paul Scoon on constitutional matters as the island sought to grope its way back to a democratic structure.

Mr Rushford was ideally qualified, having been a Foreign Office legal advisor who helped draw up Grenada's constitution on independence in 1974. He is now an independent constitutional lawyer.

He arrived in Grenada on November 1. "I was not even met by any official in that wilderness of an airstrip. Sir Paul did not bother to send a car. I had to get my own taxi and it cost me an extortionate amount. No arrangements had been made for my accommodation. I have been treated by Sir Paul Scoon with contempt and condescension throughout."

Mr Rushford said his main achievement had been to push through a constitutional arrangement for a proper civil Government which came into force on November 15.

He said he was happy to note that Sir Paul said he was returning to his former function as Governor-General. "I applauded that act. He had terminated his reign as Caesar."

But Mr Rushford said the chosen chairman of the interim administration, Mr Alister McIntyre, a United Nations official, has not taken up the job.

"So the Government is a headless body, incapable of carrying on an effective civil Government. The country looks for leadership and it is not forthcoming. I resigned because I cannot compromise my reputation."

IMF suspends $14m for island

St George's (Reuter) – The International Monetary Fund has suspended a $14.1m (£9m) extended fund facility for Grenada, the caretaker Government said. Suspension of the progamme was disclosed after the Government ended a three-day review of the state of the economy. An official statement gave no reason for the suspension.

Frank Johnson in the Commons

Crisis of Kinnock word mountain

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the British Prime Minister, yesterday flew to London to grapple with a new crisis, the controversial Kinnock word mountain.

Mrs Thatcher made a statement to the House on the failed meeting of European heads of government in Athens. Disguised as a series of questions to her, as under the rules of Commons procedure it was supposed to be, Mr Kinnock then made an immense statement about her statement. Indeed, at one point he was heard to observe: "No such statement has been forthcoming in this statement."

The summit was an "unmitigated failure". She had tried to lay the blame of "everyone but herself." We were used to that because she was "the banana skin Prime Minister." She had been quoted as saying that the disagreements would be resolved by the Brussels meeting in March. What did she think would change between Athens in December and Brussels in March? (Irreverent Tory cry of "the weather.")

Why no positive proposals ... Chancellor budgeted for £420m or a 50 per cent increase ... was Chancellor being deliberate "or was it sheer stupidity?" On and on he continued.

The background to the word crisis was as follows: basically, Wales produces more words than are needed either for home consumption or for British and European markets. Over the years, most of these surplus words were acquired cheaply by Mr Kinnock. He found an outlet for them on chat shows and at the social functions of the London Welsh rugby union football club. As a result he became immensely well-liked and eventually leader of the Labour Party.

But since then the system has broken down. Mr Kinnock has remorselessly stepped up word production even though there have been clear signs of consumer resistance he became leader.

But Mr Kinnock's economy is not geared to producing anything other than words. The brilliant young fonctionnaires in Mr Kinnock's private cabinet, such as Mr Robin Cook and Ms Patricia Hewitt, have been trying to devise a scheme whereby Mr Kinnock can continue to produce words but without the Labour Party having to pay for them in the form of lost votes, boredom and general hatred on the part of the rest of the population. But so far no such scheme has been devised.

Yesterday Mr Cook, who is the chief Opposition spokesman on Europe and is officially recognized as brilliant by virtue of his having a beard, could be seen in consultation with Mr Kinnock on the Opposition front bench shortly before Mrs Thatcher's arrival.

It was understood that Mr Cook had come up with a last-minute compromise scheme to limit word production by Mr Kinnock or at least keep it under control for the duration of the afternoon.

But within a few paragraphs of Mr Kinnock's remarks to Mrs Thatcher, it was clear that the plan had broken down. It was quite clear that Wales was not prepared to abide by any agreement to limit the word mountain or the notorious sub-clause lake. Just when we all thought Mr Kinnock was about to sit down, he got on to the VAT contributions, having actually started off with the Lebanon.

Soon he seemed likely to get on the milk mountain or indeed to give a full reading of Under Milk Wood. Tories mocked and protested. The left winger, Mr Martin Flannery shouted at them: "Louts!"

The Speaker tactfully intervened: "Latitude is usually given to a Leader of the Opposition, but I hope he is coming to the end soon". That seemed to spur Mr Kinnock on to a new burst of production.

In due course, he sank back exhausted. Mrs thatcher briskly denied it all. Other Labour questioners did manage to make some telling points. Their difficulty was that Mrs Thatcher seemed to be just as angry with the foreigners as they were.

At one stage, the Prime Minister made the slip of referring to the Athens meeting as being of heads of state". Mr Gerald Kaufman, the chief Opposition spokesman on home affairs and clearly a student of the British constitution, shouted: "You're not a head of state". It was the Opposition's one score of the afternoon. Mrs Thatcher corrected it to "heads of government". But by then the Queen had no doubt asked to be kept informed.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

The Queen opens the new London South Western District Office of the Post Office at Nine Elms, 3.

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother dines with the Army Board of the Defence Council at the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, 8.15.

Princess Anne visits Benenden School, Cranbrook, Kent, 11; and later, attends a reception to launch the Charing Cross Medical Research Centre Appeal at St James's Palace, London, 6.45.

The Duchess of Gloucester attends the Annual Livery Banquet of the Worshipful Company of Fanmakers at Mansion House, London, 7.30.

The Duchess of Kent opens the new civic offices at Ashford Borough Council, Ashford, Kent, 11.30; and later, as Patron of the Royal British Legion Village, opens the Churchill Rehabilitation and Assessment Centre at the Village in Maidstone, Kent, 2.30.

New exhibitions

Fifty Years of Civil Engineering in Northern Ireland, Ulster Museum, Botanic Gardens, Belfast; Mon to Fri 10 to 5, Sat 1 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (closed Dec 24 to 27 inclusive, ends Dec 31).

Words and Images from the Lake District; Collins Gallery, University of Strathclyde, 22, Richmond Street, Glasgow; Mon to Fri 10 to 5, Sat 12 to 4 (ends Dec 22).

Last chance to see

Christopher Pratt: Silkscreen Prints, 1960 to 1982, Glasgow Print Studio, 128 Ingram Street, Glasgow; Mon to Fri 9.30 to 6 (ends today).

The Royal Photographic Society's 127th Annual Exhibition, the Octagon, Milsom Street, Bath; Mon to Sat 10 to 4.45 (ends today).

Soviet Stage Design, 1917-1982, City Art Centre, 2 Market Street, Edinburgh; Mon to Sat 10 to 5 (ends Sat).

Music

Organ recital by Sir Nicholas Jackson, St David's Hall, Cardiff, 1.10.

Piano recital by John Lenehan, St Mary's Centre, Aylesbury, 1.10.

Concert by the New London Consort, Methodist Church, The Avenue, Minehead, 8.

Exhibitions in progress

Royal Society of Marine Artists Exhibition: West Country; Maritime Heritage Centre, the Harbour, Roundham Road, Paignton, Devon; Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri, Sat 10 to 5, Wed 10 to 1 (closed Sun) (ends Dec 24).

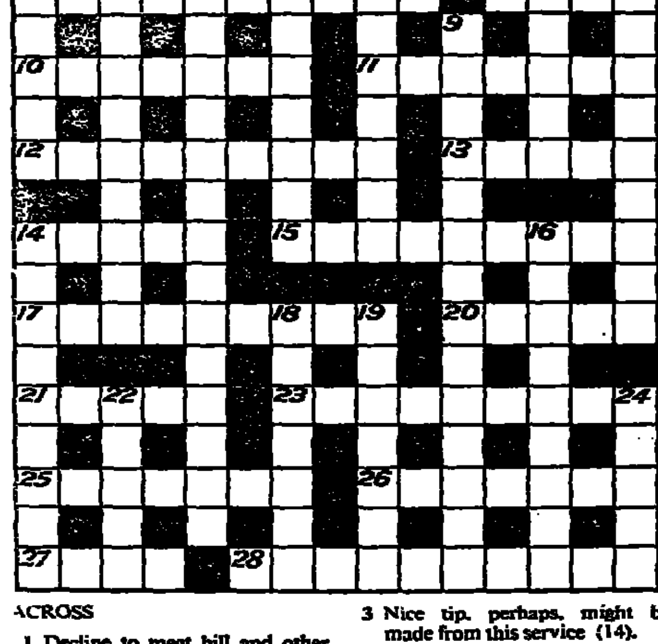
Designs from Vienna to Hollywood: Ernst Dryden, 1883-1938, Ferens Art Gallery, Queen Victoria Square, Hull; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2.30 to 4.30 (ends Dec 18).

Furniture and Textiles, R. D. Russell and Marian Pepler, Glasgow Museum and Art Gallery, Kelvingrove, Glasgow; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (ends Dec 27).

Winter Exhibition by Gallery Artists, Colin Jellicoe Gallery, 82 Portland Street, Manchester; Mon to Fri 10 to 6, Sat 1 to 5, closed Sun (ends Feb 1984).

1983 Christmas Exhibition of paintings, prints, ceramics, toys, jewelry and tapestries, Festival Gallery, 1 Pierrepont Place, Bath; Tues to Sat 11 to 5, closed Sun and Mon (ends Dec 23).

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,304



ACROSS

1 Decline to meet bill and other debts, causing disappointment (10).
6 Turn cooler? (4).
10 Star is able to get work (7).
11 Gathering of lower types? (5-2).
12 Someone adding fresh gin – appears unsteady (9).
13 Serious object of some undertaking? (5).
14 Station of foreign vessel (5).
15 Parts outside the former Tories' building, bearing right (9).
17 Outrage of the foreign quarter of London's assessment (9).
20 Competed a good deal, in a way (5).
21 Sorcerer's ring replaced by a writer (5).
23 They are engaged in chain-work (9).
25 Original letter-writer? (7).
26 Plant in splendid order? (7).
27 Of course we would want to be in it! (4).
28 Family man on the way down? (10).

DOWN

1 View of café set on Tuesday opening (5).
2 Kinds of floor covering familiar to the chapel? (9).
3 Nice tip, perhaps, might be made from this service (14).
4 Did Clio do it to Herodotus? (7).
5 Not a grand type, but honest? (7).
7 Quested for a passage hereto (5).
8 Put down document, including papers (9).
9 A bit common? (6, 8).
14 Taking off some characteristic procedure of Holmes? (9).
16 Entertainers whose lines are barred? (9).
18 Pardon Jack – loves wrong-doing (7).
19 Raised call catches up a pair of Kings – irregular! (7).
22 Crop is one month's, it's said (5).
24 Some troops Lee trained for bad weather? (5).

Solution of Puzzle No 16,303

CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 10

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Appropriation (No 3 Northern Ireland) Order and Northern Ireland (Emergency Provisions) Act 1978 (Continuance No 2) Order.

Lords (3): Debate on televising the House. Debate on gas and electricity prices.

Christmas calls

Making local, trunk and most direct dialled international calls, will be cheaper this Christmas. From 6 pm on Friday, December 23 to 8.0 am on Tuesday January 3, a 10-minute local call will cost 10p instead of the usual 25p or 35p peak rate. A 10-minute trunk call will cost 25p, compared with a standard 76p or £1.01 peak rate. A 10-minute call to France will cost £3.29, compared with £4.15 standard rate charge. But calls to Australia, New Zealand and Hongkong will only be on the cheaper rate during the night and part of the day when a 10-minute call will be £5.06. The package will run a day longer, until January 4, in Scotland.

New books – paperback

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books published this week:
A History of Poland, by O. Halecki (Routledge & Kegan Paul, £6.95)
Golden Earth, Travels in Burma, by Norman Lewis (Eland, £4.95)
I Didn't Know You Cared, by Peter Tinniswood (Arrow, £1.95)
John Piper Exhibition Catalogue, introduction by John Russell (Tate Gallery, £7.95)
Moreover ... by Miles Kington (Penguin, £1.95)
Samurai, by Shusaku Endo (Penguin, £2.95)
Strangers and Brothers, the novel sequence by C. P. Snow (Penguin, three vols, £4.95 each)
The Game, by A.S. Byatt (Penguin, £2.50)
The House in Paris, by Elizabeth Bowen (Penguin, £2.50)
The Penguin Complete Longer Non-Fiction of George Orwell (Penguin, £3.95)
PH

The papers

Referring to the use of the honours system for party political purposes, the Daily Mirror point out that in modern memory, four men went to the House of Lords "when, in justice, they might have first gone to one of the less attractive properties owned by Her Majesty. One died before inevitable conviction, a second was a spy, a third did go to prison subsequently and a fourth was never charged," it says. "The Quickest way to the House of Lords should not be via the bank or through a brown paper parcel of pound notes. That is why the Commons was wrong to reject a Bill aimed at curbing honours for those who contributed money – their own or their company's – to political funds. Taint one honour and all are tainted. MPs should have seized the chance to make the honours list honourable."

Falklands Day

Today is Falkland Islands' national day, known as "Battle Day" after the Battle of the Falkland Islands on December 8, 1914, when the Royal Navy defeated the German South Atlantic Squadron. After a memorial service in Stanley Cathedral, wreaths will be laid at the battle memorial and there will be a march past by the band of the 2nd Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, with a Royal Naval detachment and the Falkland Islands Defence Force. The day will be marked in London on Saturday at 11.00 by the annual ceremony at the Cenotaph.

The pound

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	1.64	1.56
Austria Sch	29.00	27.40
Belgium Fr	84.00	80.00
Canada $	1.86	1.79
Denmark Kr	14.86	14.16
Finland Mkk	8.75	8.35
France Fr	12.34	11.84
Germany DM	4.09	3.90
Greece Dr	162.00	152.00
Hongkong $	11.60	11.00
Ireland Pt	1.31	1.26
Italy Lira	2470.00	2360.00
Japan Yen	354.00	336.00
Netherlands Gld	4.60	4.37
Norway Kr	11.45	10.85
Portugal Esc	199.00	189.00
South Africa Rd	1.80	1.67
Spain Pta	234.50	225.50
Sweden Kr	12.05	11.45
Switzerland Fr	3.28	3.11
USA $	1.49	1.44
Yugoslavia Dnr	219.00	209.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

Retail Price Index: 340.7

London: The FT index closed 5.4 up at 753.6

Roads

Midlands: A34: Contraflow on Stone-Newcastle road at Stongford, Staffordshire. A435: Contraflow on Birmingham-Redditch road at Portway. A34: Roadworks and delays south of Shipston on Stour at Tidmington, Warwickshire.

Wales and West: A361: Barnstaple Street, South Molton, closed. A40: Diversion, with delays on Bancyfelin-Carmarthen road. A483: Temporary traffic lights and long delays in Wind Street, Ammanford.

North: A535: Single-lane traffic at Runcorn-Widnes Bridge. A41: Temporary traffic signals, with expected congestion, at junction Salters Hill, Newport, Salop. A56: Slight obstruction in Burnley Road, Colne.

Scotland: A68: All southbound traffic and northbound traffic over 30 cwt diverted, north of Dalkeith; northbound traffic reduced to a single lane. A737: Lane closure, with delays at peak periods in Main Road, Elderslie. A92: Single-lane traffic, with delays at peak times in Central Esplanade, Kirkcaldy, Fife.

A four-and-a-half-mile section of the M25 was opened yesterday, providing a motorway link between Heathrow Airport and the A3 and improving communication to the south-west.

Information supplied by the AA

Anniversaries

Births: Mary, Queen of Scots, Linlithgow Palace, West Lothian, 1542; Bjornstjerne Bjornson, poet and dramatist, Kvikne, Norway, 1832; Jean Sibelius, Hämeenlinna, Finland, 1865; Padraic Colum, poet, Longford, co Longford, 1881; James Thurber, Columbus, Ohio, 1894. Deaths: John Pym, Parliamentary leader against Charles I, London, 1643; Herbert Spencer, philosopher, Brighton, 1903; Gertrude Jekyll, landscape architect and gardener, 1932. Today is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary – the dogma pronounced on December 8, 1854 by Pope Pius IX. Britain, Australia and the USA declared war on Japan, 1941.

Mail hold-up

The Post Office have advised against posting letters or parcels to the Shepherds Bush, W12, area of London, where unofficial industrial action has led to suspension of collection and delivery services.

Weather forecast

A slow-moving trough of low pressure lies across England and Wales. England and Wales will be cloudy with rain, heavy and persistent in Northern and central areas

6am to midnight

London, SE England: Cloudy, a little rain at times; wind SW fresh or strong, perhaps gale in exposed places later; max temp 11C (52F).

East Anglia, E, W Midlands, E, NW, central N England: Cloudy, rain heavy in places. Wind SW fresh or strong; max temp 10C (50F).

Central S, SW England, Channel Islands: Cloudy, outbreaks of rain; wind SW, fresh or strong, perhaps gale in exposed places; max temp 11C (52F).

Lake District, Isle of Man, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Northern Ireland: Mostly cloudy, showers at first, rain later, heavy in places; wind SW, moderate or fresh becoming variable light; max temp 9C (48F).

Aberdeen, central Highlands, Argyll, NW Scotland: Rather cloudy, showers, some sunny intervals; wind W strong, decreasing and veering NW to moderate; max temp 9C (48F), becoming colder later

Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Rather cloudy, showers, some sunny intervals; wind W strong decreasing light, veering NW later; max temp 8C (46F), becoming colder later.

Outlook for tomorrow and Saturday: Becoming cold, with sunny intervals and snow showers, frost overnight.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea, Straits of Dover English Channel (E): Wind SW fresh increasingly strong and perhaps gale; sea moderate becoming very rough St Georges Channel, Irish Sea: Wind SW strong, perhaps locally gale; sea, rough or very rough.

Sun rises: 7.52am Sun sets: 3.52pm
Moon rises: 11.26am Moon sets: 7.19pm
First Quarter December 12

Lighting-up time

London 4.22 pm to 7.23 am
Bristol 4.32 pm to 7.33 am
Edinburgh 4.10 pm to 8.00 am
Manchester 4.20 pm to 7.42 am
Penzance 4.50 pm to 7.38 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

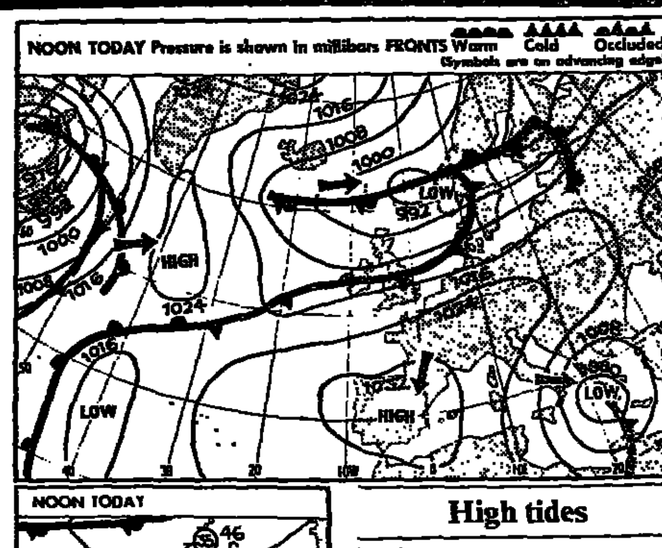
		C	F			C	F
Belfast	c	07	45	Guernsey	c	08	46
Birmingham	c	02	36	Inverness	f	06	43
Blackpool	c	01	34	Jersey	c	07	45
Bristol	f	04	39	London	s	06	43
Cardiff	c	02	36	Manchester	f	04	39
Edinburgh	c	05	41	Newcastle	c	02	36
Glasgow	c	05	41	Ronaldsway	c	09	48

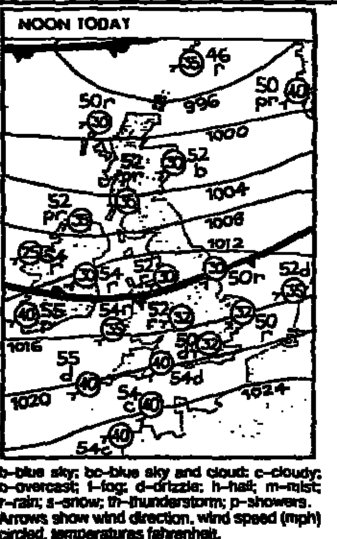
Highest and lowest

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Benbecula 11C (52F); lowest day max: Brize Norton 1C (34F); highest rainfall: Tiree 0.12in; highest sunshine: Bognor Regis 6.8hrs.

London

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 7C (45F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 2C (36F). Humidity: 6 pm, 68 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, nil. Sun: 24hr to 6 pm, 5.4 hrs. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1033.1 millibars, falling.
1,000 millibars=29.53 in.





b-blue sky; bc-half clouded; c-cloudy; o-overcast; f-fog; d-drizzle; h-hail; m-mist; r-rain; s-snow; th-thunderstorm; p-showers. Arrows show wind direction, wind speed (mph) circled. Temperatures fahrenheit.

High tides

[illegible]

Around Britain

[illegible]

Abroad

MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow; fg, fog.

[illegible]

